

Reagan seeks to triple spending for 'Star Wars'

From Nicholas Ashford and Bailey Morris, Washington

The military budget President Reagan sends to Congress today calls for a tripling of spending on the so-called "Star Wars" space weapons research programme and a big increase in funds for the controversial MX missile.

When he appears before the Senate armed services committee this morning to present the Pentagon's fiscal 1986 budget, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, will argue that these and other increases in spending are necessary to strengthen the United States' bargaining position in the forthcoming arms reduction talks with the Soviet Union.

Although details of the defence budget are embargoed until Mr Weinberger's presentation to the committee, the main outlines have been leaked by sources in Congress, where strong opposition is expected to the Pentagon's spending plans.

The budget calls for a 10 per cent increase in military spending to \$313.7 billion (£280.1 billion) in fiscal 1986. However Mr Weinberger will argue that the actual rate of increase is only 5.9 per cent after allowing for 4 per cent inflation.

Research funding for the President's futuristic anti-missile defence programme would rise from \$1.3 billion to \$3.7 billion. This request is likely to be strongly resisted by Congress on the grounds that the Star Wars programme is technologically unachievable at this stage and potentially destabilising.

The Administration will argue that the President's new broadcast, he appealed for public support of his new budget, saying the deficits and the spiralling national debt, which nearly doubled in his first term were the result of "flawed congressional procedures and special interests."

But key congressional figures, including the House and Senate majority leaders, made it clear yesterday they are in no mood to accept the blame. They said the deficits resulted from Mr Reagan's insistence on a mix of programmes which favour heavily a military build-up.

The key features of Mr Reagan's domestic spending programme include: a selective government spending freeze at 1985 levels; a wide range of programme elimination which would kill scholarship and grant programmes, and do away with entire departments; a 5 per cent pay out for all federal civilian workers; and a new programme requiring the public to pay for museums, mail travel and other services subsidised by the Government.

● MOSCOW: Tax yesterday said the defence spending provisions of Mr Reagan's budget showed the United States was determined to have military superiority (Reuters report).

"The draft of the new budget confirms that, today as yesterday, the real policy of Washington is leading not to the diminution but, on the contrary, to a share increase in the level of nuclear confrontation," Tass said.

Moscow denial, page 6



Princess Margaret leaving Kensington Palace yesterday for the Caribbean island of Mustique where she is to convalesce after her lung operation three weeks ago.

Tutu sets deadline for end of apartheid

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

The Right Rev Desmond Mpilo Tutu, the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize winner was enthralled here yesterday as the first black Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg in the cathedral church of St Mary the Virgin in a service that mingled high church incense and pomp with the exuberant singing and dancing of African choirs.

In an hour-long address from the pulpit, Bishop Tutu, resplendent in mitre and gold and crimson robes, announced that he would call for "punitive economic sanctions against South Africa" whatever the legal consequences may be for doing so. "In 18 to 24 months from today apartheid had not been dismantled or is not being actively dismantled."

The bishop also offered to act as an intermediary between the Government and the banned African National Congress (ANC) declaring: "We will not have security and peace until we have justice, and we cannot have that without the participation of the premier black liberation group."

He would pray, he said, that the Government would grant an amnesty to all political prisoners and exiles.

Earlier Bishop Tutu spoke of his awareness that many whites saw him as the "horrid ogre" and felt that he had been "foisted on an unwilling diocese."

He promised to devote himself to the pastoral care of his flock, and said he had already turned down countless invitations to travel abroad. He hoped that in time those who felt apprehensive would come to find him "a slightly more lovable ogre."

In a moving peroration Bishop Tutu paid tribute to the "very, very many" splendid white people "who deserved to be saluted more vociferously than their black counterparts for opposing a system that had brought them such substantial benefits and privileges. Then he appealed to "our dear white fellow South Africans to bear the *cris de coeur* we utter."

"It is that we too are just ordinary human beings. We too love to be with our wives every day. We too want our children to rush out to meet us as we come back from work where we are able to move freely everywhere in the land of our birth. We too want to have security of tenure. We too want to participate in the decisions that affect our lives. These are not extravagant demands."

At the end of the address, there was a burst of applause from the multi-racial congregation of more than 1,500, which included the representatives of local and overseas churches, civic and diplomatic dignitaries and hundreds of lay guests but no members of the Government.

Mengele's victims relive pain

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

One of the most macabre conventions ever staged opened here yesterday as sets of twins and other Jews gathered to give testimony about the grotesque experiments performed on them in Auschwitz by Josef Mengele, known as "the angel of death."

For three days the surviving victims of Mengele's attempt to engineer an Aryan master race will appear before a televised tribunal chaired by Mr Gideon Hausner, the prosecutor of Adolf Eichmann, and disclose details of their ordeal never before made public. Some have only consented to take part if they are permitted the anonymity of a curfew between them and the worldwide audience.

"The idea is to shock the conscience of the world into having one more attempt to bring this man to justice," said Mrs Yana Laks, who with her identical twin sister Miriam was subjected to eight consecutive months of experiments when both the girls were 13 years old.

In a disconcertingly matter-of-fact tone, Mrs Laks - now 54 and the mother of three Israeli children - yesterday gave *The Times* a preview of the evidence she will give to the tribunal.

"Each day when we had been selected, we were taken on the back of a truck with dwarves and other twins to Mengele's hospital. For us the experiments mostly involved regular blood transfusions and injections with unexplained substances which had terrible effects," Mrs Laks said, watched impassively by her sister.

"The injections caused excruciating pain and high fevers. Sometimes our legs would swell so that we could not stand or our vision was blurred and we would vomit repeatedly."

"Occasionally Mengele - who was very handsome and impressive looking - would show a small act of kindness, like giving a bit of chocolate. But most of the time he would say nothing."

"Each twin knew that staying alive depended on the other because if one died the other was automatically murdered - being of no use any more. What Mengele was doing was trying to discover from the 1,500 twins involved the genetic secret which would enable Aryan women to give birth to two children at a time."

Mrs Laks said one result of her constant exposure to induced disease - believed to have included typhus - was to cause a breakdown in her immune system which has left her prone to infection and incapable of treatment by conventional drugs.

There has also been fears that the trial that opens in Manchester today of four Libyans on bomb charges might sway the decision of the Libyan congresses.

Mr Waite said last night that he believed the Libyans had agreed to release the four as a mark of respect for the Church and its humanitarian involvement in the matter. "Secondly, I have tried in a limited way to act as a bridge builder between the two sides."

Right until the announcement was made doubts remained about the release of the four. At the same time that Mr Waite was seeing the Foreign Bureau officials, Jana, the Libyan News agency, said that Mrs Margaret Thatcher was trying to hamper the release of the four by unveiling a memorial to WPC Yvonne Fletcher who was killed by a gunman in the Libyan People's Bureau last April. Jana accused Mrs Thatcher of a flagrant attempt to revive hatred.

Continued on back page, col 3

500 mining jobs lost at doomed colliery

By Barrie Clement and Ronald Faux

About 500 miners' jobs are to be lost at the Frances colliery in Fife, it was announced last night, as National Coal Board officials prepared for what they hope will be a surge back to work throughout the British coalfield.

Mr Albert Wheeler, the board's Scottish director, said that a two-week fight to extinguish a fire in the main production face at the Scottish pit had failed. Another blaze in the colliery complex threatens a further 300 jobs, he said.

Mr Michael Eaton, chief national spokesman for the board, predicted, "an accelerated return" by members of the National Union of Mineworkers, but refused to say whether he thought the numbers would exceed the records achieved last November after the previous substantial talks broke down.

Attempts to resurrect the large demonstrations seen last spring went ahead yesterday and the police were on the alert in mining areas.

The National Working Miners' Committee met yesterday to plan legal action under the 1984 Trade Union Act to force the NUM to hold secret ballots for the national executive.

The committee called on Mr Scargill and Mr Heathfield to resign. "The finest group of industrial workers deserve a better leadership," it said.

The Frances colliery, which is 111 years old, Scotland's oldest pit - produced 12,000 tonnes a week and made a profit. The fire at the Seaford colliery, in the same complex, has put it in a serious state and a decision on its future will be made within the next 48 hours.

Mr Wheeler blamed a lack of co-operation from striking miners for the loss of the Frances face. Heavy investment would be needed to re-open the colliery and the work would take more than two years.

"It is a sad day for the Scottish coalfields and the Fife coalfield that we have lost such a valuable unit as a result of the 11-month strike and lack of assistance from the local strike committee to ensure we were in a position to deal with an emergency," Mr Wheeler said.

The Frances was the tenth of Scotland's 33 production faces to be lost during the strike. The coal board has said that if Seaford production is lost as well the unit, employing 2,300 men, would no longer be economically viable.

Mr Wheeler added: "The future of the entire Scottish coalfield depends on men coming back to work because a negotiated settlement is not in sight."

The Government will come under attack for its handling of the mining dispute in a Commons debate today in which the Cabinet will be criticized for its "public and private activities" which impede a negotiated settlement.

Mr Eaton, speaking on the BBC Television programme *This Week Next Week*, denied that the Government was "directing the situation" and hit

Continued on back page, col 5

Ronan Point inquiry files lost

By Charles Knevitt

Architecture Correspondent

More than half the files of the public inquiry into the collapse of the Ronan Point tower block in east London in 1968, which killed five people, are missing from the records kept by the Department of the Environment, it has been disclosed.

Mr Sam Webb, an architect who has waged a 17-year campaign over faults in the 22-storey block, part of which broke away after a gas explosion, said: "I find it disgusting to say the least, that so many files are missing on such an important matter to tenants and councils throughout the country."

Mr Webb was given access to the files with Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South, whose constituency contains Ronan Point.

Mr Webb repeated his allegation that an early draft of the inquiry report was altered. "The paragraph referred to the structural fault walls of the building being sucked out in a high wind if windows broke," Mr Webb said it did not appear in the final report.

"Nigel Spearing and I found that paragraph today in an early draft of the report," he added. The Government has denied that the report was changed between its final draft and publication.

Mr Spearing has received an assurance from Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, that the search is continuing for the missing documents.

The most important missing document is the original report signed by Mr Hugh Griffiths (now Lord Justice Griffiths), Professor Sir Alfred Pugsley and Professor Sir Owen Saunders, as members of the tribunal of inquiry.

Mr Spearing said yesterday: "Some of the files may have been inadvertently destroyed as a result of the five-year review. Mr Spearing added that the Government has a responsibility to help the London borough of Newham in a scientific dismantling of Ronan Point to discover the extent of its faults and to help other authorities with blocks of similar design."

Waite told Libya is to release Britons

By Richard Dowden

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, obtained an assurance yesterday that the four Britons detained in Libya for eight months will be released today.

After a press conference at the General People's Congress, the Libyan form of Parliament, they will be released into Mr Waite's custody and are expected to return to Britain later in the week after the completion of passport formalities.

Mr Waite, who has made four visits to Libya, to seek the four men's release, said last night he was delighted. "It is absolutely in accordance with what the Libyans said they would do. Every promise made to me has been kept."

The four, Mr Robin Plummer, a British Telecom engineer; Mr Alan Russell, an English teacher; Mr Michael Bergdinner, a university lecturer; and Mr Malcolm Anderson, an engineer, were arrested in May last year. Only Mr Anderson and Mr Russell were charged and in January Mr Russell was sentenced to three years and three months prison and fined for "breaches of security."

Mrs Pat Plummer, wife of Robin, said last night she was delighted at the announcement of his release but could not feel certain of the news until she saw him walk off the aeroplane. She praised Mr Waite and thanked him. She added: "It is his intervention that has brought their release."

Mrs Carol Russell, said: "This is marvellous news. I feel very optimistic now. At last I can look forward to seeing my husband again."

Continued on back page, col 3

Heart girl ill

Ruth Phipps, aged 17, of Newport, Gwent, is critically ill in Harefield Hospital west London after a heart transplant. Planned kidney transplants were abandoned.

Tamil link up

Tamil moderates are being forced to link up with extremist groups after the failure of political talks in Sri Lanka. Page 5

Base invaded

Fifty-six women were arrested after invading Greenham Common base. Only one was charged, with causing criminal damage by daubing a runway with paint. Page 20

England stand

England's chances of securing the draw they need to win the Test series in India improved when Fowler and Robinson put on 156 for their opening partnership. Page 20

Leader page, 13

Letters: The Ballot Act from Mr George Cunningham; Industry in the North from Mr R. A. Cookson and others. Leading article: Yalta Features, pages 10-12. A new approach to famine relief: too frequent use of the Commons' guillotine; the Labour MP who has taken on the left Spectrum; the viewfinder pop stars. Monday Page: postcard parents. Obituary, page 14. Dr George News, Miss Freda Swain. Classified, pages 22-25. La Creme de la creme; university appointments.

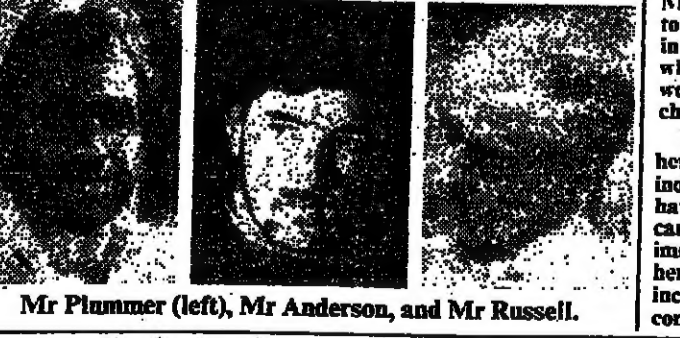
Home News

2-4	Law Report	21
4-7	Parliament	18
14	Pre-Bonds	28
15	Religion	14
16	Sale Room	14
17-18	Sport	14
19	TV & Radio	27
20	Theatre, etc.	27
21	Weather	28

Church's triumph

2

Mr Plummer (left), Mr Anderson, and Mr Russell.



Mr Plummer (left), Mr Anderson, and Mr Russell.

Ethiopia buries its dead as epidemic takes hold

From Paul Valéry Addis Ababa

They were carrying out a body for burial as it drove towards the isolation hospital in the tiny village of Bombe. A group of youths held the palette on which the corpse rested, shrouded in an old jute sack, high above their heads as they near to heaven as they could.

The hospital was an old Protestant church in the west of Shoa, closed years before by a revolutionary government which objected to over-reverent behaviour in religious matters at least. Its cross hung crookedly from the top of the building.

White patches of powdered DDT showed through the darkness inside. It was obvious that to call the place a hospital was to mock the dying. The floor was of mud. Beneath the moaning bodies were a few fronds of eucalyptus leaves and a raffia mat.

The handful of people inside writhed in slow motion, with languorous movements of grotesque elegance, as if they had to conserve all their strength for spasms which convulsed their stomachs. Their groans were low and unearthly, their eyes haunted with the horror of full consciousness.

The Bombe revolutionary commune's health assistant came across with his carefully inscribed ledger, proud of his 103 names. Next to each came the untutored diagnosis: acute diarrhoea and vomiting. Doctors and nurses of the missions and relief agencies working in the area had a more concise description: cholera.

The disease which has struck down hundreds of weak and malnourished people in the refugee camps of Wollo and Tigre has now spread south and west, to isolated villages of northern Sidamo and southern Shoa.

In this area last week an Ethiopian government official for the first time said the problem facing him was "cholera". In southern Shoa a district health officer summoned representatives of several relief agencies to work out a strategy to combat the epidemic.

"He told us that he knew it was cholera but that the Ministry of Health nationally was refusing him the resources to fight it. They had turned down his request for intravenous fluids and units which are the only effective treatment," said the field director of one relief agency who asked not to be named for fear that this might lead to identification and persecution of the official concerned. "He wanted us to collect as much information on the scale of the epidemic as we could so that he could present it to his superiors and persuade them to make the area a top priority."

The disease has broken out over wide rural areas. Main towns in the area are unaffected but the epidemic was apparently widespread in villages.

Continued on back page, col 4

Stockton rebuke for dons

Lord Stockton, Chancellor of Oxford University, said yesterday that he deeply regretted the decision last week to refuse the Prime Minister an honorary degree because of her education policies.

The former Prime Minister spent the weekend at Oxford discussing the vote with colleagues.

He said: "Nobody believes more strongly than I do in right and duty of individuals in the university, and of its organs, to express criticisms of any government. But this is quite distinct from the traditional courtesies that have been observed."

"No doubt those who organized this affair hoped to deal a blow at Mrs Thatcher, but I fear it will rebound on the honour and position of the university."

In 25 years as Chancellor he had seen an improvement in the manners and sense of responsibility of the undergraduates. "I wish I could say the same about the dons."

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15% of coal faces lost, Welsh miners told

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Striking miners in south Wales have been told that because of the dispute 10 coalfaces representing 15 per cent of the area's output have been irretrievably lost.

Four other faces are causing serious concern and, if they go, a fifth of the capacity in Britain's biggest loss-making coalfield will have been sacrificed.

Most of the machinery and equipment in the 10 faces is believed to be beyond recovery and will add to the £16 million needed to repair pits in the area.

Throughout the dispute, south Wales miners have been more solid in their support of the strike than those in any other area. Fewer than 350 men of 19,600 have returned to work in the area's 28 pits.

Mr Chris Davies, the board's area deputy director (mining), said: "We are reserving judgement temporarily on faces at four other collieries which are giving cause for serious concern."

"A dispute cannot go on as long as this one without serious consequences."

The pits where faces have been lost are at Abernart, Mardy, St John's, Lady Windsor, Abercynon, Merthyr Vale, Penrhoswiler Colwyn South and Bedwas.

An accusation that policemen have lashed out at "young, plimsolled, tee-shirted pickets who had already been arrested" is made by Mr George Moore, chairman of the South Yorkshire Police Authority, in a report today our Home Affairs Correspondent writes.

"Such acts are indefensible", Mr Moore says. "Why have these officers been allowed to get away with it? Is it a case of one law for policemen and another for citizens?"

The report makes clear that he is condemning the behaviour of some officers only, but says: "No policeman has a lawful right to dish out punishment to any citizen. That is the function of the courts."

Mr Peter Wright, South Yorkshire's chief constable, will receive a copy of the report at today's meeting of the police committee. It has been drafted by a subcommittee of the police authority set up to monitor police policy throughout the coal dispute.

Copies will be sent to the Home Secretary, local MPs and the European Parliament, which has announced an inquiry into the policing of the strike and related civil liberties issues.

The report says the Government should support a new community policing initiative to help in healing the rifts caused.

The cost of the miners' strike would have been at least £1 billion higher than its present estimated £3.2 billion if it had not been for the Central Electricity Generating Board's policy of building up stocks at the power stations.

Mr Christopher Johnson, economic adviser to Lloyd's Bank, says in the company's latest economic bulletin that the end of the strike should help sterling but shows that the cost to the oil balance of payments was £2.8 billion, with a further £400,000 being spent on increased coal imports.

Smaller wage rises will not cut standards of living, say ministers

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government will attempt to convince union and employers' leaders this week that a reduction in the growth of wages will not lead to a fall in the country's living standards.

As part of a campaign led by the Treasury to highlight the link between pay rises and jobs, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, will present a joint paper to Wednesday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council stating that there is no need for a reduction in the level of real wages, only a reduction in their rate of growth which has been 3 per cent a year.

In an effort to eradicate what it calls the "popular misconception about pay and jobs" the paper argues against the belief that reductions in real wages will lead only to poverty-line jobs. There can be gains in employment at all pay levels, it says.

This salvo from the Govern-

ment, part of its contribution to the council's investigations on where the new jobs will come from, comes after the publication last week of a Treasury study suggesting that if real wages - pay rises adjusted for inflation - were cut by 2 per cent for a year, employment after three years would rise by 300,000.

While leaders of trade unions representing the lower paid are bound to attack the government's thinking at Wednesday's meeting, the Confederation of British Industry is likely to lend its support. The CBI's latest quarterly industrial trends survey, covering manufacturing industry, indicated last week that an export boom was on the way but that it could be stopped in its tracks if pay settlements were "excessive".

The CBI believes that wage rises ideally should be kept to zero but admits that that is unrealistic. Instead, it wants them to be held at a level below the rate of inflation.

The Treasury and Department of Employment paper also disagrees with the argument that a slowing in the growth of wages will reduce the growth in effective demand and do nothing to increase jobs. Slower wage growth, it says, would lead to higher profits and lower prices which would contribute to increased output and jobs.

The Treasury's Economic Progress Report last week added: "That is also the view of a lot of practical businessmen: in a recent survey the one factor which a sizeable proportion of all firms believed would lead to higher employment was a reduction in pay and benefits".

Mr Lawson clearly is intent on using the data from the Treasury's latest analysis to demonstrate that lower wage growth rather than higher public spending is the key to a reduction in unemployment. Lower wages means greater government ability to cut taxes and reduce interest rates.

Directors' no-strike clause call

By Barrie Clement

The Institute of Directors is urging the Government to introduce a model industrial relations agreement with an extra no-strike clause for essential industries.

The framework for resolving labour conflicts would operate in a system where trade union immunities would be linked to the observance of "agreed or reasonable" procedure.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, is studying the proposals and is under pressure from some Conservatives to act upon them as the next step of the Government's labour legislation.

Such an all-embracing law would be opposed by trade unions, which would argue that it was an unwarranted intrusion into free collective bargaining. The labour movement will also be keen to discover how the Institute would define "essential industries".

Under the Institute's proposals, the five-stage procedure would be embodied in an Advisory, Conciliation, and Arbitration Service code of practice, and be applied as a standard in any legal action.

The model has been designed to apply to all industries and to resolve all conflicts.

More cash urged for job training

By Our Labour Reporter

Britain's spending on job training compares badly with other industrial nations, according to a survey published today by the Industrial Society, a body supported by employers and unions.

The society said: "Economic recovery is taking place, but it is urgent that we improve training investment or we will not be well placed to take advantage of that recovery".

The survey of 134 organizations shows that two-thirds of companies devote less than 0.5 per cent of turnover to training, compared with up to 3 per cent in the United States, France, Japan and West Germany.

Most of the British investment goes on white-collar staff, with less than 20 per cent spent on training apprentices. Smaller companies spend most on training, public bodies such as local authorities least. Electronics companies spend most, but still less than their foreign counterparts.

The Government comes under attack today from the charity Youthaid, which claims in submission to the Commons Select Committee on Employment that only two thirds of its year's places on the Youth Training Scheme have been filled.

Thatcher reassures Dublin

By Julian Haviland

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in a letter to a senior Conservative MP, has gone out of her way to reassure political opinion in the Irish Republic by finding merit in the report last year of the New Ireland Forum.

The Prime Minister's dismissal last November of the forum's findings, after her meeting at Chequers with Dr Garret FitzGerald, the republic's Prime Minister, caused considerable bad feeling between London and Dublin. Dr FitzGerald was reported to have described as "gratuitously offensive" remarks made by Mrs Thatcher.

Now, in a letter to Mr Michael Mates, MP for East Hampshire and chairman of the all-party Anglo-Irish parliamentary group at Westminster, Mrs Thatcher has described the forum report as "a useful and worthwhile stimulus" to the dialogue between the two governments, a dialogue which both Dr FitzGerald and she wished to continue.

Although there were real difficulties about parts of the report, there was "much in the report's statement of principles and recognition of realities with which we would sympathize and agree: its unambiguous condemnation of violence; its declared willingness to consider other views; its recognition of the separate identity of the Northern people of Northern Ireland; and its repeated references to the principle of consent."

Dr FitzGerald and Mr Douglas Haard, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday criticized plans by the leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party for a meeting with Provisional IRA leaders, likely to end prospects for inter-party discussions within Northern Ireland (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

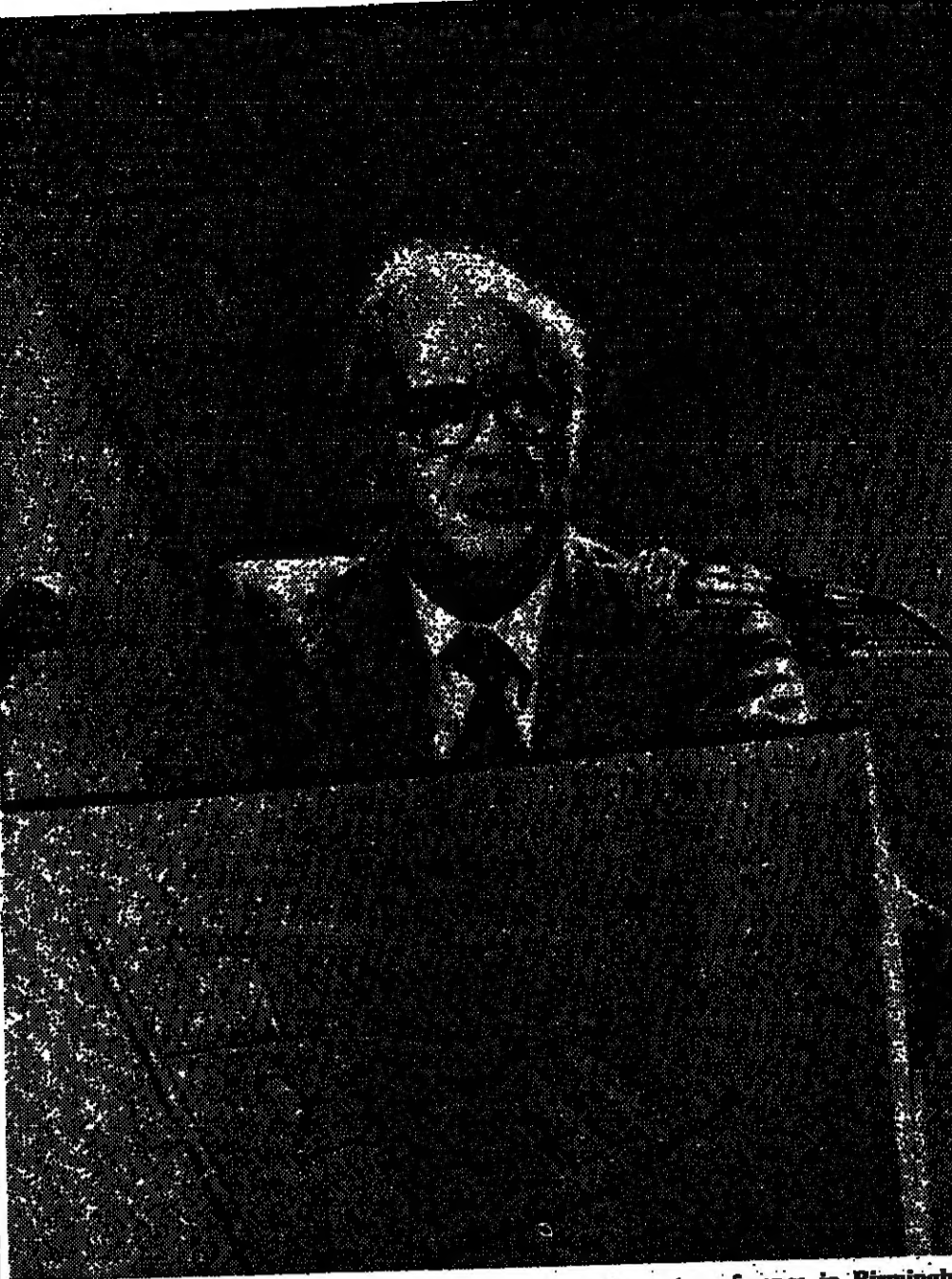
Mr John Hume has said that he will meet the "army council" of the Provisionals, banned in North and South, to urge it to end its campaign of violence.

Dr FitzGerald said that he did not believe Mr Hume would secure his objectives and that if a meeting was discovered in the Irish Republic it would be broken up.

The proposed meeting has been supported by Mr Charles Haughey, leader of the Opposition in Dublin.

The tone of a statement read by Dr FitzGerald on a radio programme yesterday barely concealed his anger. He recognized that if there were people "so soft-headed" as to think that Provisional Sinn Féin was a political party distinct from a terrorist front, Mr Hume had exposed their delusion.

Commentary, page 8



Mr Jim Mortimer addressing the Labour local government conference in Birmingham yesterday, his last public engagement as the party's general secretary (Photograph: John Chapman).

Labour confident of rates deal

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

Labour council leaders meet Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, this morning for what they say are negotiations that will soon lead to a deal over rates and local spending.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader, apparently authorized his frontbench colleague, Mr John Cunningham, to take part in the talks to reach the sort of compromise that was achieved over Liverpool's rates last year.

Councillors broke up yesterday from the Labour Party's annual local government conference in Birmingham expressing confidence that threats of

"political and economic instability", default on loans from the City of London and the dislocation of social services in deprived urban areas would persuade Government to make a deal.

Criticism of Mr Kinnock by council leaders from Lambeth, Liverpool and Lothian for refusing to endorse illegal actions by the party's municipal "standard-bearers" was muted.

But Mrs Margaret Hodge, of Islington, London, said the hard-line council would not be bought off by crumbs, and she contrasted "our law of defending the working class" with the

"same judges carrying out Tory law".

Unity was affirmed on "non-compliance" with the Rates Act 1984, but there remains confusion over how to respond to the rates limit set for 18 councils under the Act without leaving office or risking a legal challenge.

The Government vehemently denies that its talks today constitute negotiations. Mr Jenkin's aides emphasize his reasonableness and that he is simply opening his door to councillors who might bring additional information about finances.

Franks denies Falklands inquiry cover-up

By Our Political Editor

Lord Franks, whose report into the origins of the Falklands war in 1982 concluded that the invasion by Argentina could not have been foreseen, has denied that his committee covered up mistakes by ministers or officials.

In an interview to be broadcast on BBC radio tonight, he replies for the first time to the charge made by Mr James Callaghan, and echoed by others, that he and his colleagues "chucked a bucket of whitewash" over the picture they painted.

Lord Franks says that his committee of six, which included two former Conservative and two former Labour Cabinet ministers, the latter nominated by Mr Michael Foot, who was then Labour leader, did not begin their work thinking about how they might save anyone's reputation. They did not think about that from start to finish.

The arguments on the committee had at times been fierce, but the report was unanimous.

Lord Franks's report, published in January 1983, made some implied criticism of two senior ministers, Lord Carrington and Sir John Nott, and was critical of ways in which the machinery of government was used, but made no direct criticism of the Prime Minister.

The interview with Lord Franks, who will be 80 on February 16, can be heard in "The good and the great", on BBC Radio 3 at 7pm.

Steel's coalition challenge

Young Liberals, alarmed by Dr David Owen's references to the Alliance parties seeking the balance of power at the next general election, yesterday called for assurances from Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, that he will not enter a coalition with the Conservatives.

A meeting in Sheffield of the council of the National League of Young Liberals unanimously resolved that Mr Steel should declare himself at once. There was some discussion as

to whether a change in the leadership would make the Tories acceptable partners. But with only three dissenting voices, it was agreed that Mrs Thatcher's departure would make no difference.

Mr Mike Harskin, the Young Liberals' publicity vice-chairman, said afterwards Dr Owen and many Social Democrats came from backgrounds where coalition deals were made in smoke-filled rooms.

MP wants facts on 'Arab plot'

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Senior ministers face questions today about the deportation of four Arabs suspected of plotting an attack on the Palestine Liberation Organization in London and about reports of a second group allowed to flee from police questioning.

Yesterday Scotland Yard denied that four men held at a London hotel a fortnight ago had Syrian diplomatic papers. Suggestions that another four who did were allowed to take refuge in the Syrian Embassy before leaving for West Germany were dismissed by the Yard.

But Mr Reg Fresson, drawing on newspaper reports and other sources, said he wanted to establish whether four people had gone to ground in the Syrian Embassy. He wanted to know why the four held by the police and "suspected to have potential for bomb-making" were not charged.

Mr Fresson said that for too long Britain had appeared to be soft on Middle-Eastern terrorism.

According to the police, four men were arrested by Special Branch under the Prevention of Terrorism Act on information from the PLO.

They were detained for the seven days allowed by the Act, and flew out last week. No arms or explosives were found.

Accountant leaves over £1m to Treasury

An accountant has left more than £1 million to the Government. Mr Keith Parsons, of Liss in Hampshire, is believed to have left the money should he die.

Mr Parsons, who died last month, aged 83, left an estate of £2,216,680. He stipulated that half of the money should go to the Treasury.

The Treasury said yesterday that the bequest was so unusual that it was impossible to say yet how the money would be used.

Mr Parsons, a widower, who worked for the Cadet Gas company, left the other half of his estate to relatives, friends and charities including the National Trust, King Edward Hospital, Midhurst, the Royal College of Surgeons, the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, the Spar and Garter Home, Richmond, and the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

Other wills, page 14

One-legged man joins Red Devils

Private Paul Burns, aged 24, of the Parachute Regiment, who lost a leg in the IRA bomb blast at Warrenpoint, Northern Ireland, has been accepted as a member of the Army's Red Devils parachute display team.

He will be doing about a hundred jumps a year for the 22-strong unit. The square parachute he will use does not require him to roll over on landing. Private Burns is now in Cyprus training to be a parachutist.

Theatre roof is leaking

The repairs needed to the National Theatre's leaking roof are threatened by a likely cut in its grant.

A silicon-type coating is needed to prevent the long-term deterioration of the reinforced concrete structure which was completed in 1976.

Spectra, page 10

Rhine crossing anniversary

The 60th anniversary of the crossing of the Rhine is to be commemorated on German soil next month by more than 200 allied military veterans.

The British party is being led by General Sir Nigel Poett, who commanded the 5th Airborne Brigade and General Sir Kenneth Daring, who was commanding officer of 12th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment.

Drugs case man abducted

A man awaiting trial on a drugs charge has been abducted from a London flat by masked men carrying handguns and knives.

A lot of blood was found on the stairs at the flat in Clarendon Walk, Notting Hill, and police believe Mr Brian Pert may have been badly injured. Scotland Yard is treating the case as a genuine abduction, but a warrant for Mr Pert's arrest has been issued in case it was staged.

Yard probe into detective's claim

Scotland Yard's anti-corruption investigators are considering information from a private detective that private investigators had been given access to confidential information from official records.

The Yard confirmed yesterday that Mr Gary Murray, once a senior member of the Institute of Professional Investigators, had called at the Yard last week to talk to police officers.

Tories resign after ballot

Eight committee members of the Cambridge University Conservative Association, including the chairman, Mr Clive Blackwood, have resigned after allegations of electoral irregularities.

The alleged irregularities involve the checking of ballot papers to see who voted for whom in the association's recent elections. Mr Andrew Fox, aged 21, of Pembroke College, says he has tape recordings to prove the allegations.

Thatcher views £300,000 house

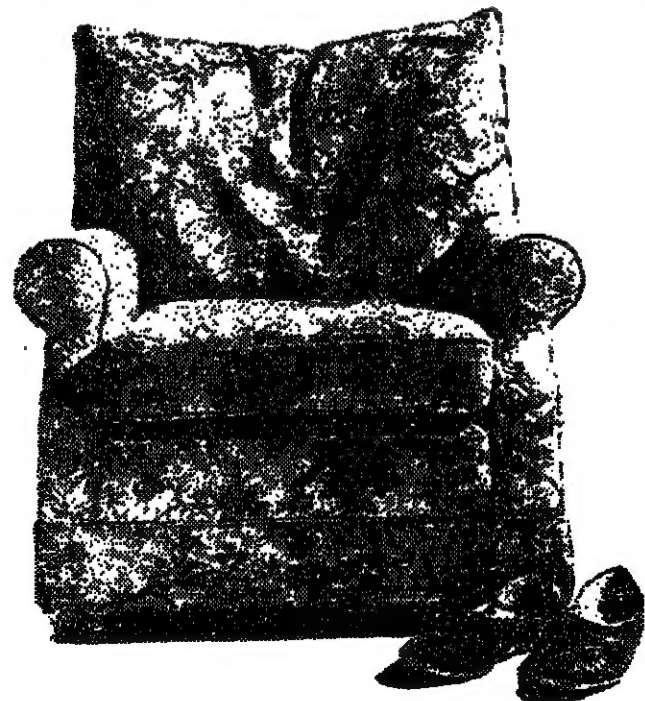
A Queen Anne house in Lord North Street, Westminster, between the Conservative Central Office and Parliament, may be bought by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

She has viewed the former home of Lady Davidson which is for sale at about £300,000 for a 49-year lease.

Angler drowns

Bernard Mainder, aged 39, of Penryffon, Llanelly, south Wales, drowned yesterday while fishing on a sandbank at Pwll nearby. Coastguards got within five yards of him when his waist-filled waders dragged him under.

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Church's triumphant diplomatic mission

By Richard Dowden

"It was very clever of the British to pick Mr Waite," a Libyan diplomat said privately last month.

He was referring not to Terry Waite's stature as a 6ft 4in former Guardsman, nor his genial, patient manner which overlays a straight-eyed toughness, but to the fact that Mr Waite was able to negotiate with a full knowledge of British government thinking, without actually representing Britain.

Mr Waite could argue that he was acting in a purely humanitarian capacity and that snubs, delays and even ultimate failure meant nothing to him as a Christian. It was a position no diplomat could take.

Waite's aim was the release of the Britons detained in Libya after the arrest of six Libyans in connection with bombings in London and Manchester last March.

He had first to find out what the Libyans wanted in holding the six Britons.

In talks with Mr Ron Brown MP for Leith, and other Labour MPs in the August, Colonel Gaddafi appeared to ask for a swap with the Libyans in Britain. Britain had deported Mr Abdulsalam Muhammad Abdulsalam, regarded by some as the organizer of the bombings, so why could the other Libyans not be deported too?

The British government, enraged by the killing of Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher outside the Libyan People's Bureau on April 17, would not contemplate such a deal.

Libyan students in Britain were detained and their flats searched. Any whose visas had expired were deported.

The clampdown did not hurt British interests in Libya, but it did hurt the Libyans. Most Libyans receiving technical training overseas come to Britain and there is also a constant flow of Libyans seeking medical treatment. When diplomatic relations were broken off the number of

Libyans coming was reduced to a trickle.

Britain was, in the words of one British diplomat, "happy to let Colonel Gaddafi stew for a while". Even when two of the British detainees were released as a gesture to the British Labour MPs, Britain did not react.

But the wives of the detained Britons were not happy with that. In July, Mrs Carol Russell contacted the Archbishop of Canterbury to ask his help.

The Archbishop wrote to Colonel Gaddafi on August 1 asking him to release the men, but took no further initiative until the Labour MPs's visit ended.

In mid-November, Mr Waite secretly visited Tripoli to make preliminary contacts.

At Christmas, he won a two-hour meeting with Colonel Gaddafi, who mentioned the Libyans detained in Britain but made no demands. No did he mention another of Libya's hinted demands.

Russia in talks on ICL factory that could beat technology embargo

By Matthew May

The Soviet Union is believed to be discussing with ICL a contract worth more than £100 million for a factory to produce personal computers in Russia.

The idea, raised at a meeting between senior ICL management and a Soviet delegation accompanying Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Kremlin number two, on his visit to the UK last year, is highly sensitive as there will be fears that such a factory could enable the Soviet Union to make high-technology goods denied it by the West's export restrictions.

ICL confirms that a meeting took place with representatives of Russia's information technology ministry and its state-run electronics company, Elektrotechnika. Those present included ICL's managing director Mr Peter Bonfield and Mr Yevgeni Valikhov, a member of the Moscow Academy of Sciences and a key figure in the development of the domestic market for computers in the Soviet Union.

ICL dismisses as "highly speculative" reports that the building of a factory was discussed. But Mr Mike Potts, chairman of ICL, the company which developed some of ICL's personal computer range, says that he was informed of the potential project by ICL.

"We indicated to ICL that we would be interested in a joint venture to build a factory in Russia," he said. He added that while the actual construction of the factory would probably be sub-contracted, ICL would play the lead role in overseeing production.

Russia has a huge demand for microcomputers. It recently announced a 15-year plan to spread computer instruction through its 64,000 secondary schools and wishes to spread their use in offices. It relies heavily on the Apple II, but only a thousand are expected to be in schools by the end of the year.

Though the export of certain personal computers to the Eastern bloc is permitted by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom), a group which includes most Nato countries, such moves come at a time when three British businessmen

have been jailed for exporting American computers on an embargoed list and there are several more computer smuggling cases due to be heard.

If the Soviet Union does build a factory based on the import of permitted Western technology there is concern that it would then be in a much stronger position to move onto the production of more advanced computers by itself.

ICL complained last year that President Ronald Reagan's efforts to suppress the transfer of useful technology to the Eastern bloc has cost it business. Even in Washington there is constant conflict between the US Defence and Commerce departments, reflecting the clash between the Pentagon's desire to stop the Russians becoming too computer-literate and the desire of American business to sell computers.

If the deal does go through it is by no means certain that ICL would be awarded the contract. According to Mr David Bannister, editor of the monthly computer magazine *Infomatics*, ICL is not the only contender.

Last year ICL made a deal to produce its personal computers in Mexico with the Datum company.



Mr Bonfield and Mr Valikhov

BBC chief confirms backing for £65 fee

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The chairman of the BBC, Mr Stuart Young, confirmed yesterday that an independent report on the corporation's support for a £65 licence fee. But it is still unclear whether the report will be made public in its entirety.

Mr Young, speaking on Channel 4's *Face The Press*, said that the report, by the accountants Peat Marwick, proved "what I always felt it would prove, that the corporation does give value for money".

The study was sent to the Home Secretary, but it is unlikely that it will ever be published in full. BBC sources say that parts which recommend the "fine tuning" of some of the corporation's activities are too commercially sensitive to be made public.

Mr Young hedged on publication. "I'm nervous about two things. First, some of the sensational press will pick out the headlines, the irrelevant headlines."

"The other thing is, while I think we probably will publish the report, if that's what the Home Secretary asks for, it's the sort of thing that a sensible businessman would never have agreed to because you don't show to the rest of the world the fine tuning that you're going to undertake in your own business."

Mr Young restated the position first outlined by the corporation when it announced that it wanted a £65 licence fee: that the licence fee was the best way of financing the BBC, and that advertising would ruin the "ecology" of British broadcasting. He denied that he would resign if the BBC was forced to take advertising.



Fire victims: Stuart Reay (left) and his brother, Christopher.

Call for screening to wipe out blood disease

By Our Social Services Correspondent

A crippling blood disorder of which almost two million people in Britain are at risk could be eliminated by a proper screening and counselling programme, Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, president of the Royal College of Physicians, said yesterday.

The disease, Thalassaemia major, produces a lethal form of anaemia in children which can be held at bay by monthly blood transfusions with drug infusions five nights a week, at considerable cost to the National Health Service.

But carriers of the disease, who, if they marry one another have a one-in-four chance of producing a child affected by it, can be detected by a simple and cheap blood test.

By screening, detecting carriers and offering them the choice of antenatal diagnosis or abortion of affected fetuses, the disease could be eliminated. In the few places where vigorous screening has been undertaken, for example in the North-east Thames region, the number of children born with the disease has been cut by three quarters in just over a decade.

Boys die in house fire

Two young brothers were killed yesterday morning in a fire at their Tyneside home. Their parents were dragged alive from the house in Collin Avenue, South Shields, but neighbours could not reach Stuart Reay, aged four, and his brother Christopher, aged three.

Their bodies were recovered by a fireman from the back bedroom. Mr John Reay, aged 34, a civil servant and his wife Carol, aged 25, were said to be very ill indeed in hospital with severe burns.

Forensic scientists were investigating the cause of the fire.

Trend away from gin and whisky

By Derek Harris Commercial Editor

Britons are drinking less spirits in total but there is a trend to imported spirits, particularly the cheaper grape brandies, and away from whisky and gin.

The shift emerges from the latest analyses by the Wine and Spirit Association, according to its deputy chairman, Mr Nicholas Gent, pre-Christmas sales were disappointing.

An analysis in the middle of last year, showed the spirits market growing by 5 per cent but a decline in the third quarter brought the growth down to 2.6 per cent.

In the third quarter the only increases among spirits released from bond to the trade were in grape brandy, which rose by 10.6 per cent, and a group that includes vodka, up by 2.1 per cent. These spirits are cheaper than their traditional competitors, cognac and gin. In total, spirit sales in that quarter fell by 4.6 per cent.

In the third quarter, whisky clearances went down by 2.7 per cent and gin by 17 per cent. All home-produced spirits were down by 5 per cent. Imported rum was down by 8.6 per cent and cognac 3.5 per cent.

The only bright spot for the Scotch whisky makers is that 1984 exports rose by 1.5 per cent over 1983.

Imported spirits, which account for about a quarter of the market, went up by 12.9 per cent in September.

Price of coffee to rise by 5%

Coffee prices in the shops are going up by about 5 per cent and there may be a fresh rise in tea prices. Orange juice is expected to go up by 10 per cent.

Price rises for ground coffee have just been notified to the trade by Lyons, Tetley, no market leader. An 8oz pack of ground coffee will rise from £1.39 to about £1.46 from the middle of this month.

The trade expects similar increases soon for instant coffee, which last went up in November. The new rise is likely to be about 6p on a medium-size jar.

Priest's funeral

The Rev Gregory Richards, aged 38, the prison chaplain who died of Aids, is to be cremated tomorrow.

Make womb leasing a crime, say lawyers

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Tough sanctions to outlaw commercial surrogate motherhood, under which a woman bearing a child for another for reward would be guilty of a criminal offence, are called for by the Law Society today.

In a memorandum to the Government, the society's family law committee proposes far wider criminal sanctions against commercial surrogacy than recommended by the Warnock report on human fertilization and embryology.

The society says it should become a criminal offence for a woman to offer, for reward, to any kind, to bear a child for another, for a man or woman to offer such a reward, and for a person to act as an agent or intermediary in such a transaction.

Not only the intermediary, such as commercial surrogate mothering agencies, but the parties would be liable to prosecution.

The Warnock report, to which the society is responding, did not go so far. It recommended legislation to render agencies criminally liable, and said the law should be wide enough to catch those who

knowingly assist in establishing a surrogate pregnancy.

If Parliament wants to outlaw surrogacy altogether, even where no reward is involved, the Law Society says it can do so only by criminal sanctions, albeit less severe than for surrogacy for reward. The law of contract would not apply as money would not have passed between the parties.

On the status of a child born to a surrogate mother, the society takes issue with what is seen as the Warnock committee's view that the surrogate mother should be regarded in law as the child's mother, and the commissioning "mother" should have no rights nor duties.

The society says it may be in the child's best interests to be regarded as legitimate and for all purposes the child of the commissioning couple.

On AID (artificial insemination by donor) the society calls for the criminal law to be extended to make it an offence knowingly and wilfully to fertilize by whatever means the egg of a woman in a legally prohibited relationship with the donor.

Raids herald campaign on pirates

London's pirate radio stations were raided by Department of Trade and Industry investigators at the weekend as part of what is expected to be a concerted campaign against illegal broadcasters.

A team of department officers raided the capital's most popular radio station, Radio Jackie, in Cheam at 2am yesterday having already raided it on Friday. They confiscated transmission equipment.

The station was forced to go off the air and it is not known if Jackie, which has applied for a legal licence to broadcast, will return.

There were also raids at the weekend on Asian People's Radio in Muswell Hill, London, Greek Radio in north London, Ace Radio and Venus Radio in Haringey, and Solo Radio in Crystal Palace.

The department believes that the stations will not be able to keep replacing their lost hardware. Several people were also interviewed and warned that they might face prosecution.

Beef faces mushroom pie threat

By John Young Agriculture Correspondent

"Made with fresh vegetables and myto-protein. Natural protein food with the goodness of meat."

That is the label on a new "savory pie", on sale in Sainsbury shops, which could be a pointer to the food we will be eating in the next century. Intended to taste like beef, the pie contains no meat.

Myto-protein is the result of 20 years' research by Rank Hovis McDougall and is being manufactured by New Era Foods, a production company established by RHM and ICI. The raw material is a mushroom plant with a texture like white chicken meat, but with a neutral taste.

It is not the only threat now confronting British beef producers, who, struggling to retain their market, may also lose the so-called variable premium, an EEC subsidy which has been paid for the past 10 years.

To all our customers

DHSS DISPUTE OVER, BUT...

Unfortunately, the current emergency payments of Pensions and Child Benefits will have to continue for a while.

* This is because new books will not start to become available from the DHSS until the beginning of February. It will then take five months until everyone has received their replacement Pension books.

* Nearly all replacement Child Benefit books should have been received by the beginning of February.

* So there will be no immediate easing of the problems at our counters. In fact it will take us a little longer at first whilst staff check that everything is in order when they issue the new books.

* Do please continue to bear with us and we still advise you to avoid Thursday mornings if you can. They will be our busiest times.

We would like to say 'thank you' for your patience during what has been a difficult time for both customers and Post Office counter staff alike.



Fares drop 25% in Hereford trial

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Welsh Marches, from the Black Mountains in the west to the Malvern Hills in the east, have witnessed a renaissance in bus travel over the past three years.

Fares have dropped, bus mileage and passenger numbers have increased. It is enthusiastic says a tribute to the liberating powers of competition.

The 600-square-mile territory around Hereford was one of three trial areas chosen to assess the effects of deregulating bus transport. The Bill to achieve it nationally was published last week.

But critics believe that the policies that made the Hereford experiment a success would be barred by the proposed legislation.

Since private bus operators have been able to compete on equal terms with Midland Red, the National Bus Company subsidiary, in Hereford and Worcester fares have been on

average 25 per cent lower, and up to 60 per cent down on some routes, according to Mr Ron Carrington, chairman of the county's strategic planning and transportation committee.

Bus mileage is up by 78 per cent in urban areas and by 2 per cent in rural areas, Mr Carrington says. A study by a Bristol University team also indicated a small but important increase in overall passenger numbers.

The experiment has also helped to rein-back the alarming growth in the county's subsidies to operators. Between 1972 and 1983 they had grown from £87,000 to £867,000.

Such improvements in bus travel have been achieved in the sort of sparsely populated rural hinterland which opponents of deregulation believe would be most at risk of losing services as hard-nosed independent operators competed for the more profitable urban routes. Mr Carrington says it is a "classic example of what can be done".

They have also been achieved by the kind of polite prodding and prompting of would-be hustlers which observers believe directly contravenes clause 84 of the bill, stipulating that local authorities shall "so conduct themselves as not to inhibit competition between persons providing or seeking to provide public passenger transport services in their area".

Four-fifths of the routes were awarded to sole applicants. But it is those within the contested one-fifth, typically ending in the city of Hereford as the final, small leg of a long cross-country meander, which are at risk; the urban section, it is argued, would simply be "creamed off" by a profit-hungry operator.

The county has largely avoided that by pointing out to would-be culprits, as Mr Carrington puts it, "that they are also in receipt of various favours from the county council as contractors in other areas, education and school buses, for instance".

The potential fortune lurking in our dustbins

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Tamil moderates link up with extremists as door to peace closes

From Michael Hamlyn, Madras

Tamil moderates are being driven into the arms of extremist groups by the recent breakdown of political talks in Sri Lanka, and by Government threats to settle armed Sinhalese families in the northern Tamil-dominated areas of the island.

In the parlour of the state guest house here, I met the general secretary of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Mr. Appapillai Amirthalingam, in a room with a view of the sea. He is a leader of the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLO). The front once formed the official opposition in the Sri Lankan Parliament and participated in the unsuccessful off-party talks. PLO is a Palestinian-trained group of Tamil militants.

Mr. Amirthalingam, in the past, a moderately-spoken man who has promised Gandhian-style campaigns against the Sinhalese oppression of Tamils, has found a new and virulent language.

It is a question of turning everybody into a militant, he said, bitter at what he sees as the Government's abandonment of a political solution to the ethnic crisis. "It is closing the doors for ever on a peaceful solution."

Mr. Amirthalingam accused President Jayawardene of Sri Lanka of having disowned two schemes which could have led to a solution, because of

opposition within his own party and the Sinhalese community. "That is why we shall have to fight to the bitter end to win our own homeland for ourselves," he said.

"It is clear that the Sinhalese will not give any quarter to the Tamils, and though we believe in the non-violent, Gandhian style and the militants believe in an armed struggle we have to close ranks with the militants."

The immediate problem is the genocidal attacks that are going on now. We are being driven to starvation in the north. We cannot afford to have ideological struggles among ourselves at the moment.

Because of this new pressure to make common cause, the front is hoping that the militant groups themselves will sink their differences and move a full understanding with the demo-



Mr. Amirthalingam: Tamils 'will fight to the bitter end'.

cratic leadership. The militants appear to concur.

"The survival of our people is our first priority," the PLO official said. "Then a broad national liberation front should be built up."

Later PLO's official spokesman, Mr. Raja Nithiyam said discussions were in hand to establish a single military command. This is likely to be difficult to achieve as the various militant organizations differ over how the struggle is to be carried on. Groups such as the Liberation Tigers for Tamil Eelam believe in and are conducting a vicious guerrilla war in Sri Lanka, while PLO and others believe in mass insurrection. "So we are holding back until the appropriate time."

● **COLOMBO:** The Ceylon Workers Congress, representing nearly a million workers of recent Indian origin, yesterday urged to resume negotiations with the Tamils and to seek Indian co-operation to bring about a stable solution to the problem (Donovan Moldrich writes).

The congress's executive committee adopted a resolution saying that the Government's refusal to negotiate with Tamil representatives raised fears that no longer wanted a political settlement but was trying to impose its will by military force.

Americans injured in Athens bar blast

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A powerful explosion wrecked a seaside bar here frequented by American servicemen from an airbase nearby, injuring 79 people. Police experts who searched the debris said they found the time mechanism of a home-made bomb that caused the blast.

All but 15 of the injured were allowed home after receiving first aid, but eight of the 12 Americans needing hospital treatment were flown to military facilities in West Germany suffering mostly from second-degree burns. All are said to be out of danger.

The blast came on early Sunday, when the ground floor bar, the "Bobby Number 2" at Glyfada, near Athens airport, was packed with foreign customers. The barman said there had been a powerful blast, then a flash which explained why although there was no fire, most of the casualties suffered burns.

Americans serving at the airbase inside Athens airport have often had bombs planted under their cars by left-wing extremist organisations, but this is the first terrorist act against a public place patronized by Americans in Greece.

No one has claimed responsibility for the outrage, and the Greek authorities which have taken charge of the investigation, seem reluctant to link it to the anti-Nato attacks in other European cities last week.



Paris blast: A policeman inspecting damage caused to cars by an early-morning explosion outside the ministry responsible for the troubled territory of New Caledonia.

● **BRUSSELS:** Senior EEC diplomats are to resume discussing joint anti-terrorist tactics when they hold a regular meeting this week (Ian Murray writes). The subject is likely to be on the agenda of foreign ministers from the Ten when they meet in Rome on February 12.

But because of a British initiative, the Community already has a common policy for combating terrorism and it is unnecessary for any further political action at this stage.

Britain originally raised the question inside the EEC after the siege in London of the Libyan People's Bureau. It asked for greater Community

co-operation in fighting what it saw as "state terrorism."

The new procedure was worked out, agreed by foreign ministers last September and rubber-stamped by heads of government at the Dublin summit in December. For security reasons, details of the agreement have not been released, but it is known that member states are pledged to exchange the maximum amount of information about all known terrorists.

There has been a basic commitment not to give political asylum to terrorists. It has been recognized that a terrorist in one country is a danger to all countries, and that it is in

everyone's security interests to help trap members of any group from any country.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, briefly raised the latest wave of terrorism with foreign ministers at their meetings in Brussels last week and there was strong agreement then that maximum co-operation and vigilance were essential.

● **BONN:** The threat to Nato installations from international terrorism may be one of the topics discussed at a top level West German-American defence seminar in Munich next weekend (Michael Binyon writes).

Hunger strikers give up, page 7

Khomeini defends 'cure' for the corrupt

Tehran (Reuters) - Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, yesterday defended Iran against accusations of terrorism and human rights violations but insisted that evil people should be thrown out of society.

Speaking at the mosque next to his home in north Tehran, the Ayatollah said: "Any radio you tune into criticises Iran, speaking about oppression, crimes, prisons, torture and executions without trial."

"You go and investigate these matters, you see people on the streets. Are they under pressure and threats?"

"Sometimes to cure the disease you have to cut off a limb or burn it. Corrupt elements should be thrown out of society."

The Ayatollah, aged 82, spoke clearly and forcefully to an audience of about 800 people, many of them foreign Muslim leaders invited to Iran for 10 days of celebrations leading up to the February 11 anniversary of the revolution.

His speech precedes today's opening in Geneva of the annual session of the UN Human Rights Commission, at which a UN official said conditions in Iran among other countries, would probably figure prominently.

The Ayatollah added that, despite attempts to stop Iran's voice from reaching other countries, "the louder their noise, the stronger Iran becomes."

Spain wants new treaty on Gibraltar

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Madrid is seeking a new treaty that would reintegrate Gibraltar with Spain while preserving the way of life of Gibraltar's people.

That was made clear by Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, on British television yesterday just 48 hours before the important Anglo-Spanish talks on the future of the Rock.

He said on independent television's *Weekend World* programme that Madrid respected Gibraltar's cultural traditions and emphasised that it did not want to rush things. But he also dismissed any suggestion that Gibraltar as a Crown colony could have had any right to veto an eventual settlement.

Britain is committed to discuss sovereignty in the talks, to be launched by Señor Morán and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in Geneva tomorrow, shortly after the border between Spain and Gibraltar is fully reopened for the first time in 16 years.

But Sir Joshua Hassan, Gibraltar's Chief Minister, who will be with Sir Geoffrey in Geneva, said on the same programme that he could not support any process which foresaw the transfer of Gibraltar's sovereignty to Spain during this generation or the next. The price would be too high, he said.

● **GIBRALTAR:** Everything looks ready on the Spanish side for the lifting at midnight tonight of the final restrictions on passage to and from the Rock, beginning a historic process designed, Madrid claims, to remove "the last colonial vestiges in Europe" (Richard Wigg writes). But before leaving for Geneva yesterday Sir Joshua declared that he would insist on full respect for the democratically expressed wishes of the Gibraltar people.

Sir Joshua indicated that he has prepared an elaborate reply to Spain's expected rejection of Gibraltar's claims to self-determination based on its 1969 constitution.

As a forerunner of what will be allowed from midnight, foreign journalists have been allowed to cross and recross the frontier lately.

Poles step up war on heroin

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland has announced new moves to stamp out the largest home-made heroin problem in the Soviet bloc.

A law passed last week and effective from today imposes tough restrictions on the growing of poppy seed and hemp in an attempt to stop organized criminal gangs taking over the narcotics business in Poland.

Most drug experts in Poland estimate that there are about 200,000 regular users of crude heroin and of "konopki" (literally: a fruit stew) which is a liquid morphine mixture made at home on the stove.

Private farmers have been selling sacks of poppy heads and stalks either directly to addicts or, increasingly, to dealers who have built up a comprehensive illegal sales network.

So far the legislation on drug abuse has been so thin that there is little to stop dealers from selling heroin openly. With a minimum of subterfuge, Warsaw dealers approach clients in central streets, take the addicts to empty stairwells and sell them a syringe full of the drug. The syringes, scarce in Poland, are then returned.

The new law gives the authorities more effective powers in handling street sales and in registering addicts. But most importantly it tries to restrict the cultivation of poppies. Some independent drug experts, notably the Monar rehabilitation organization, wanted private growing of poppies, and hemp banned, but the farmers' lobby opposed that.

Instead, farmers will be allowed to plant poppy and hemp only on small plots not exceeding 20 square metres. Even then they will have to obtain the permission of the local governor. Thus the police will be given a more active role in monitoring farmers' crops.

The law still does not satisfy some drug experts, who point out that it fails to give central authority to any one organization in tackling heroin.

Outside *The Times* office, the dealers and the addicts have disappeared, perhaps scared off by the legislation, perhaps by the thick snow.

China and Macao seek closer co-operation

From Mary Lee, Peking

The Governor of Macao, Admiral Vasco de Almeida Costa, arrived in Peking today to discuss expanding economic co-operation and "other matters of mutual interest" between China and its Portuguese-administered territory.

Although Admiral Costa is here as a guest of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, the Xinhua news agency announcement said he would have discussions with Chinese leaders as well. Indications are that the question of Macao's future will be raised during his week-long visit.

Kyprianou under fire

From Our Own Correspondent, Athens

A crisis erupted in Cyprus after the Conservative opposition joined the island's powerful Communist Party in blaming President Kyprianou for the failure of the Cyprus summit in New York last month.

Mr. Glafkos Clerides, the leader of the Democratic Rally party, who said he had rejected an offer of cooperation from

President Kyprianou, accused him of mishandling the Cyprus problem by pursuing a policy of deliberate obstruction.

He urged Mr. Kyprianou to resign because he had lost the confidence of the majority of the people. Mr. Kyprianou's Centre Party won less than 20 per cent of the vote in the last elections.

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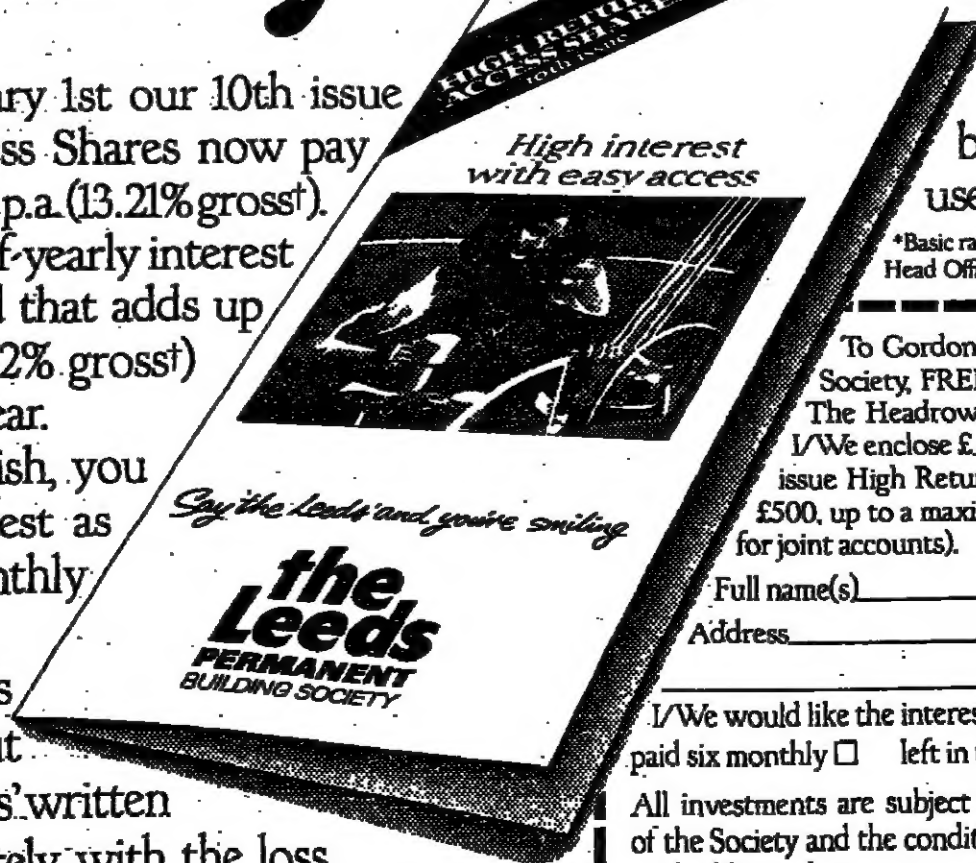
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HRAS/TT/42

Battered militiamen will create buffer zone after Israeli withdrawal

From Robert Fisk, Marjayoun, southern Lebanon

When the Israelis withdraw the last of their occupation troops from Sidon in a few days their heavily armed and largely Christian Lebanese militia allies will be ordered to stay in their positions in the hills above the mostly Muslim city, some eight miles forward of the new Israeli front line.

In an interview with *The Times*, retired Brigadier-General Antoine Lahd - whose 2,000-strong "South Lebanon Army" is trained, paid and armed by Israel - insisted that his militiamen would remain in Kfar Falous and other villages in front of the Israeli lines until or unless the Lebanese Government Army took control of Sidon.

Since Lebanese soldiers are unlikely to exert such control in the near future, the statement means that the area to be vacated by Israel and its allies is smaller than Israel originally stated. It also suggests that Lebanese guerrillas in Sidon may quickly turn their wrath on the SLA outposts.

General Lahd's militia has suffered hundreds of desertions: in January alone it was attacked on at least 70 occasions by anti-Israeli guerrillas, mostly in the Sidon area. But the general appeared both relaxed and remarkably self-confident when he sat opposite me in his bungalow at Marjayoun, only a

few miles from the Israeli frontier.

"The Israelis told me to pull my men back to Jezzine [in the mountains 15 miles east of Sidon] with them; but I could not accept it," he said. So I went to see the Israeli Minister of Defence in Tel Aviv to discuss this.

"I told him that in the interests of Lebanon I could not send men back to Jezzine. I am not sure there is going to be security in Sidon or in the area to the east - so we will stay in Kfar Falous and see how the Lebanese Army performs in Sidon."

If General Lahd's words seem on paper to be a mere practical argument, in reality they carry a very different meaning. Kfar Falous and the small towns east of it are mostly controlled by the Christian Phalange. By protecting them, the SLA effectively will have become a buffer force for the Israeli Army behind them. It will also enable the Israelis to send armoured patrols across their new front lines to the very suburbs of Sidon, just as they did north of their Awali river line last year.

General Lahd still insisted that his own relationship with Israel was one of "co-ordination" rather than inferiority.

"We have a common interest," he said. "I want to bring about security in the south of

Lebanon and the Israelis want to do the same in the north of Israel."

Israel, the general added, "will never leave Lebanon - and cannot leave Lebanon - before there is a solution here in the south."

The general, who chain-smoked his way through our interview while sipping strong cups of Arabic coffee, said he believed the Israelis would not be so vulnerable to attack behind their new line.

When I asked the general what steps he had taken to punish his militiamen who had massacred civilians at a Lebanese village near Lake Karaoun last September, he replied: "There was a trial. They were put in prison for five months."

"But then I brought them to my home here to meet the people of the village where the massacre happened, to make it up."

If this account appears somewhat unlikely, there can be little doubting General Lahd's thoughts on Lebanon's future.

"Go and ask the American President and the Soviet President," he said. "It's the same as asking anyone here."

Some of the general's men, however, see things in simpler terms. As one 18-year-old SLA recruit put it to me: "When the Israelis go, I know what I'm going to do - take off my uniform and go home."



Face to face: A West Bank settler confronting a Palestinian during yesterday's roadblock protest.

Sidon gunmen settle scores

From Our Own Correspondent, Sidon

The red, white, black and green Palestinian flag snapped in the breeze atop two buildings outside the Palestinian camp of Ein Helwe yesterday as Palestinian and Lebanese guerrillas increased their attacks on pro-Israeli militias and alleged collaborators in and around Sidon.

From the fourth-floor window of an unfinished apartment block just above the camp, four Israeli soldiers watched impassively through binoculars as the sound of gunfire came from different areas of the city, already virtually abandoned by the Israeli Army.

At one point during the morning, an Israeli Centurion

tank - its heavy gun barrel removed but its machine gun firing - drove along the main Beirut highway towards the centre of Sidon after gunmen had attacked a pro-Israeli militia position on a roundabout. For several minutes, bullets cracked through the slings of Ein Helwe and across the main streets, apparently fired by the Israeli tank crew.

Elsewhere, equally violent scores were being settled. The corpse of a pro-Israeli "South Lebanon Army" militiaman was found outside Ein Helwe at the weekend, while in a small olive grove the body of another uniformed SLA man was discovered.

Over the weekend, hooded gunmen, apparently Palestinians loyal to Mr Yassir Arafat, attacked the office and home of Mr Hussain Akar, a Lebanese officer in the pro-Israeli National Guard, smashing the house but failing to find the officer.

A statement from Lebanese guerrillas on a crumpled piece of paper and written in ungrammatical Arabic, was pushed into the pocket of a journalist in the camp. "The Joint Forces [Lebanese guerrillas and Palestinians] carried out the raid on the home of the agent Hussain Akar and his men," the note said. "He fled to Beirut."

West Bank settlers block roads

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank blocked about 300 vehicles yesterday at 25 points on all main highways between Nablus and Hebron in protest against escalating Arab violence.

The demonstrators cleared the road blocks at the Army's request after about two hours.

Mr Othniel Schneller, secretary of the Judea and Samaria Settlers Committee which orchestrated the protest, said disruption was kept to a minimum because the action was not punitive. It was directed at the Israeli Government.

Arab violence has escalated beyond stone throwing, he said. An Israeli flower grower was killed last weekend in a petrol bomb attack on his car near Kalkila and a rifle was fired at an Israeli bus near Bethlehem on Wednesday, injuring two people.

Settlers claimed the gunmen were encouraged by the laxity of the National Unity Government's anti-terrorist measures compared to those of the hardline Likud administration.

They also speculated that the impending Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon may also have encouraged them.

At Amabta, Arab children threw stones at Israeli settlers blocking a road who then fired into the air.

Near Hebron, almonid, saplings apparently planted by Arabs on land claimed by Jewish settlers were uprooted.

In an apparent rebuke to the settlers, the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, said that the Government and its institutions were the sole executors of the law and no other element should take the law into its own hands.

Mr Peres also said there can be no compromise on the security of Jews and Arabs in the territories and at the same time innocent Jews and Arabs must not be harmed.

Boy found frozen stiff recovers in hospital

Milwaukee (Reuters) - A boy aged two-and-a-half found almost frozen stiff in his backyard on a day when the temperature was (-30 deg C) has recovered here.

When he was brought to hospital, his arms and legs were stiff, ice crystals had formed on his skin, and he had stopped breathing. Dr Kevin Kelly, a hypothermia specialist, who treated the boy, said he survived because he was "quick frozen" and his metabolism slowed down almost immediately.

● Snow and ice blanketed much of the southern United States yesterday. Texas temperatures reached a record low and roads in Alabama were covered by up to 6in of solid ice.

Snow contest

Grindelwald (Reuters) - An international snow sculpture contest in this Swiss resort ended without a winner because unseasonably warm weather melted the models before the jury could decide.

Judge accused

Venice (AP) - Judge Carlo Palermo, who led a five-year investigation into a massive arms and drug smuggling ring, faces disciplinary sanctions after being indicted for abuse of public office. He had two defence lawyers arrested after an argument about the investigation.

£1,500 appeal

Friends of the Earth will launch an appeal today for £1,500 to help Brazilians prove that banned chemical defoliants were used to clear rain forest. Environmentalists claim the defoliants killed 42 peasants.

Tourists robbed

Mexico City (Reuters) - About 300 tourists, including 123 Canadians, lost passports and valuables when five gunmen emptied the safe at a Club Med resort on Mexico's Pacific coast.

Up and away

Peking (AP) - Chinese engineers have built their country's first passenger-carrying hot-air balloon, tested successfully in Peking's Workers' Stadium last week.

Crash kills six

Cote d'Ivoire (AFP) - Five members of a parachute club and a pilot were killed when their single-engine Cessna-185 crashed into a hill and exploded near the small town of Le Luc.

Shekel shinned

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - With inflation at more than 400 per cent and the shekel worth less than one US cent, Israeli thieves have switched from cash to jewels, foreign currency and electrical goods, police say.

Famine in Africa

Refugee floods threaten to overwhelm Khartoum

From a Correspondent, Khartoum

Ten years drought in Sudan and the surrounding countries are taking a grim toll: millions of famine victims are on the move towards and within Sudan, the largest country in Africa and once hailed as the potential bread basket of the Arab world.

Tens of thousands of Sudanese have converged from Kordofan in the west to the outskirts of Khartoum, where they encamped in makeshift settlements.

The authorities, concerned about security in the capital, have been systematically transporting the Kordofani back to their home areas in lorries. Many return only to be retransported.

Also, more than a million nomads have migrated southwards in search of pasture for their animals. Frequently this has led to armed clashes over grazing and water rights and a general disintegration of the nomadic social structure. Traditionally everyone used to migrate together, family by family. Now each household goes alone, feeding only for themselves.

In eastern Sudan, the situation is even more critical.

More than half a million Beja people are threatened.

The only thing some Beja can find to swallow is their pride as they come down from their mountain homes to beg for water from car radiators on the Port Sudan road.

Sudan's own widespread famine crisis is compounded as refugees from drought and war continue to flood over her borders from Chad, Eritrea and Tigré. There are more than a million such refugees. Between 3,000 and 5,000 arrive each day.

In one night at Wad Kanil settlement, east of Gedaref on the Tigré border, a seemingly endless line of destitute people from Tigré filed silently into the crowded camp. In less than 12 hours there were 4,000 new arrivals at the camp which was straining to provide for its occupants.

● TIGRE REFUGEES: United Nations officials suggest that up to another 300,000 refugees will arrive by the end of the month from Tigré alone.

● LONDON: The BBC is altering its schedule for BBC 1 television tonight to show a special programme on the famine in Sudan.

Moscow denies arms control violations

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow has dismissed the latest charges by the Reagan Administration of Soviet arms control violations as "clumsy falsehoods and fantastic contentions" designed to complicate the forthcoming Geneva arms talks.

At the same time Pravda spelled out the Soviet attitude to the talks, which it said could be an important landmark.

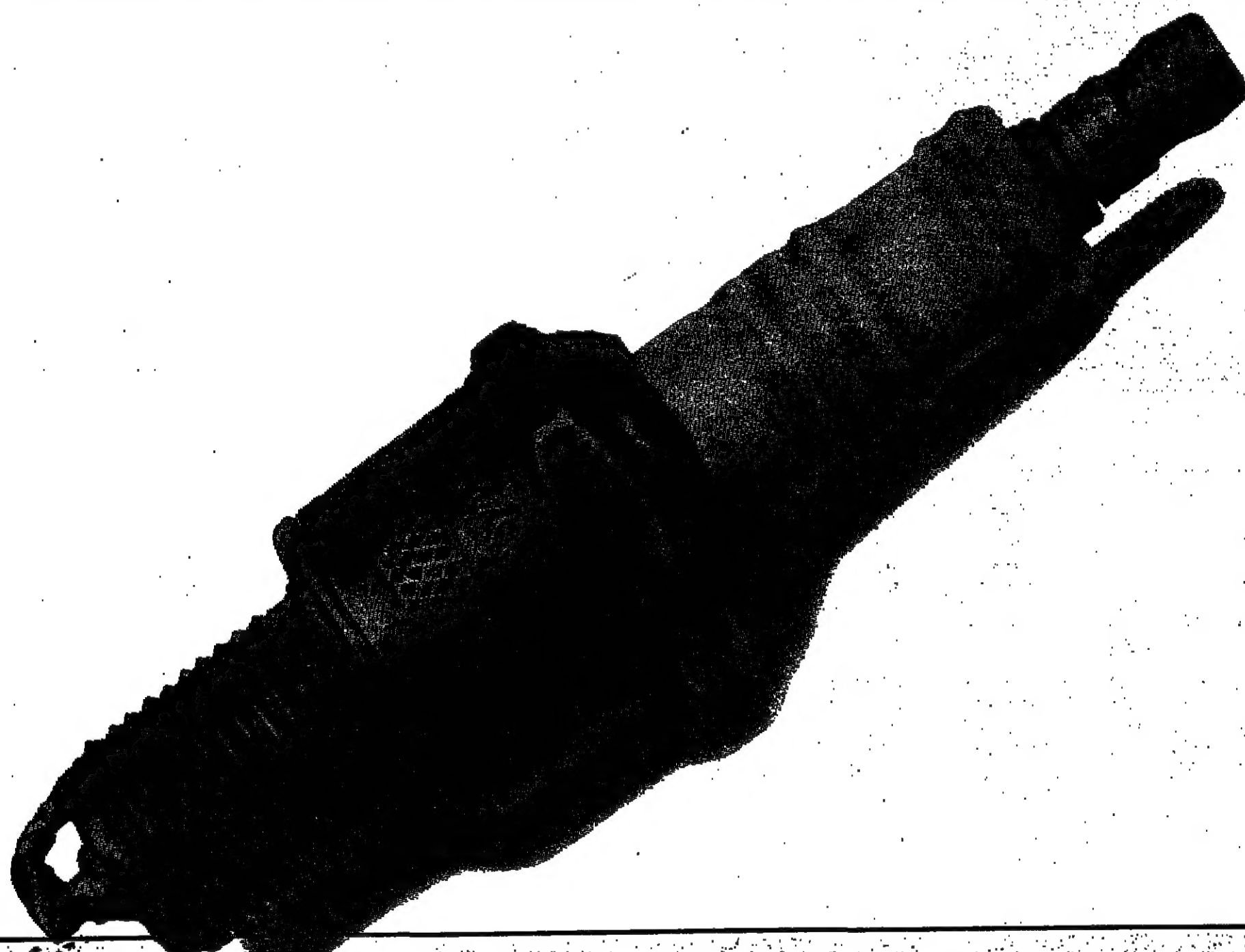
Tass said that the arms violations report submitted to Congress last week, as required by law, contained accusations woven from thin air in order to deflect attention from Washington's own "most unseemly" record on compliance with arms treaties.

The report had given prominence to alleged Soviet violations of the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty. Tass said, because Washington saw the treaty as an obstacle to its plans for space-based anti-missile defences.

The Americans argue that Soviet anti-ballistic missile radar at Krasnoyarsk, in Siberia, violates the treaty.

Pravda emphasized yesterday that space weapons were "organically inter-connected" with the issues of strategic and intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

It said that the Geneva framework agreement reached last month had made the



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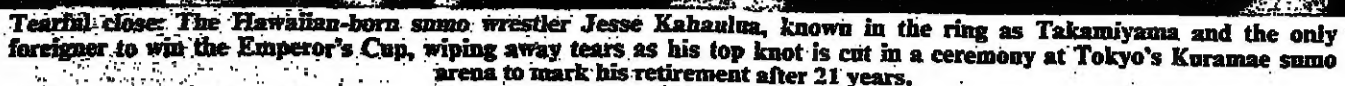
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Has Lévesque's knife cut too deep?

On top of all this, Mr Lévesque's leadership even among party moderates is not as secure as it once was.

Tomorrow: Rivals for power

Jan 19, 1985: Extraordinary PQ congress endorses Lévesque stand, while adopting a non-committal resolution declaring sovereignty "fundamental objective" of PQ.



ated on January 10 when
hot troopers clubbed and
gassed several hundred
demonstrators.

notebook

£1.2 billion more than last year. And most of that money goes on storing or getting rid of the surpluses. Which is where Mr Hawke comes in.

Ian Murray

OR WHETHER YOU NEED A HEAVY DUTY COPIER

But viewed from the wheat fields of Australia or the beef plains of the U.S. Mr Andries-

£1.2 billion more than last year. And most of that money goes on storing or getting rid of the surpluses. Which is where Mr Hawke comes in.

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In the first of a three-part series on churches and their money Stephen Aris reveals the wealth of the Church of England

The art of making Mammon's millions serve God's cause



FINANCING THE CHURCH

Irreverent clergymen know it as The Millbank Temple. Its formal address is No 1 Millbank, and it is the home of the Church Commissioners, sandwiched appropriately between Westminster Abbey and ICI, while facing the official London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury across the river. It is a rather fussy Edwardian building and could easily be mistaken for one of London's more exclusive clubs. There are silver cups in glass cases in the hall and the corridors are lined with portraits of long-dead archbishops. The staff are attentive but unobtrusive.

Yet the carefully-cultivated air of other-worldly ecclesiastical calm is deceptive. As guardians and managers of the Church of England's money, the Church Commissioners are one of Britain's richest but least-known institutions.

The Church itself is a good deal less magnificent than it used to be. In the 19th century, as many a reader of Trollope will know, the wealth of the Church lay - as it still does - with the Catholics, in the individual parishes and dioceses, with the result that there were huge and scandalous disparities in the distribution of wealth and income.

Bishops enjoyed rich pickings from the dioceses which they

The Church of England, with an investment portfolio exceeding £1,600 million and conscious of the need to be financially above reproach, has just launched a campaign to explain how and where it bestows its worldly goods. But serious questions remain about the way the money is handled.

regarded as their private income while in the parishes the ratio between the richest and poorest livings was more than 25:1 - a situation dramatized in Trollope's *Last Chronicle of Barset* where Mr Roberts of Framley Parsonage could keep his hunters while poor Mr Cawley of Hoggstock lived on the breadline and was suspected of theft.

Over the years, however, the Church Commissioners and their predecessors, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, have largely succeeded in eradicating these anomalies as the wealth of the Church has been gathered in and pooled.

Today equality is the watchword. An elaborate scheme of cross-subsidisation by which the richer sectors of the Church support the poorer has been gradually introduced so that today nearly three-quarters of the country's 10,800 rank-and-file clergymen earn between £6,900 and £7,200 a year. With free housing, car allowance and pension it is a package worth £11,500 a year.

The 44 diocesan bishops are totally supported by the Church Commissioners (the salary bill alone comes to £500,000) and though some may still have magnificent palaces their £20,000-a-year life style is more comfortable than princely. In a

recent report the Commissioners pointed out that half the bishops now lived in properties bought or built since 1945 which "were often no more than large suburban houses". Durham has dry rot and part of Coventry's grounds have been sold off for a housing development.

However, while the parishes and the dioceses have become relatively poorer so the treasure of the Church Commissioners has increased. Today, with a total investment portfolio worth over £1,600 million, the Commissioners are very much a force to be reckoned with. They cannot match the power of the Prudential Insurance Company with its £4,000 million but they are bigger, so asset secretary Jim Shelley reckons, than most pension funds.

They own big estates in Bayswater, Maida Vale and south London, have a number of important office blocks in the City and Victoria and have recently moved into America where their subsidiary, Deansbank Investments, owns a highly-profitable warehouse complex in Dallas, Texas.

The Church also has a stake in California's Silicon Valley where premises have been profitably rented out to two high-tech companies. The day-to-day running of the American end of the operation is handled by the New York office of Chestertons, the big London surveyors and estate agents.

Altogether the portfolio of commercial, industrial and residential property is worth very nearly £700 million and provides about 40 per cent of their annual income. In addition there is the land. With 172,800 acres of farm and woodland on the books worth

some £217 million, the Church Commissioners are among the country's largest landowners.

Their style is paternal: every so often they hold a dinner for their tenants, some of whom have been farming Church land for more than 100 years. But they can be tough too. "It is with a degree of sadness," the report records, "that the Commissioners felt there was no alternative but to go to arbitration to settle one of the farm rent reviews, the first time this has had to happen in 14 years".

On paper the Church Commissioners look distinctly top heavy - a plethora of committees and sub-committees weighed down with Establishment figures appointed by the Queen, the General Synod and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. There are 97

Commissioners in all, including the senior members of the Cabinet, the Lord Chief Justice and the Lord Mayors of London and York. But this is just window-dressing.

The real work is done by the seven-man assets committee which meets once a month. It is headed by Sir Douglas Love-lock, a retired senior civil servant, and includes William Howard of Marks and Spencer, Joseph Burnett-Stuart, chairman of merchant bankers, Robert Fleming, and David Hopkinson, managing director of the M & G unit trust group.

The day-to-day decisions are made by Jim Shelley, the committee's secretary, and his investment team. Until last year the Commissioners, who are accountable only to Parliament, were somewhat coy about the exact

contents of their portfolio. But, conscious of the need to be financially holier-than-thou, so to speak, the Commissioners have launched an elaborate public relations campaign to explain what they do and why they do it. "We felt we were obliged to conform to the same standards of disclosure as everybody else," says Shelley.

In the latest annual report the doors of the cupboard have been thrown wide open to show that the Church means what it says when it insists that it does not invest in tobacco, arms, drink, theatres, newspapers or South Africa.

The Church worries a good deal about the conflicting demands of God and Mammon. As the report puts it: "Although financial considerations are paramount the Commissioners refrain from investing in companies whose businesses might cause offence to a significant body of Christians or undue controversy."

There is, for example, an absolute ban on any South African company or any foreign company, for that matter, with strong South African connections or whose employment record there does not come up to scratch. Only last year the Commissioners sold their £2.7 million holding in Carnation, the US food firm, when its top management resisted strong Church pressure to improve working conditions in its South African subsidiary.

It is not always so clear-cut. The latest report reveals that the Commissioners have a £2 million holding in Barclays Bank, which is heavily involved in South Africa.

In other areas the barriers are beginning to crumble. The ban on newspapers is not as absolute as it used to be. Trafalgar House, with a part interest in the *Daily Express*, has been allowed into the fold.

These restrictions apart, the Church has invested heavily on the Stock Exchange. Thirty years ago the bulk of the Church's money was in gilt-edged. Now all but 10 per cent of the £600 million is in equities. The portfolio is solid rather than adventurous. The report reveals that the Church is a big holder in Unilever, Marks and Spencer, Becton and OGC.

The one real high-flyer is Sir Owen Green's BTR, which is currently bidding for Dunlop and in which the Church has a

£12 million stake. Next year's report will show the Church has 3.5 million shares in British Telecom on which it has already more than doubled its money.

Like any other investment manager, the Commissioners measure their performance against the FT indices and claim they are ahead of the game, if only marginally. The value of their portfolio last year rose, they say, by 23.5 per cent against 23.1 per cent increase in the FT All Share index.

The Commissioners' greatest problem is that, unlike the Pru, they have no source of new money. Like old-age pensioners they are forced to make the best of what they have got against a background of inflation and ever-rising costs. So they are slowly losing ground.

STIPENDS 1985-86	
Vicars	£2,800-£7,200
Assistant curates	£3,945-£6,485
Canon	£9,100
Archdeacons	£9,825-£11,200
Suffragan bishops	£11,270
Diocesan bishops	£13,845
Top 5 appointments (incl Archbishop of Canterbury)	£15,000-£28,000

Back in 1978/9 they chipped in £23 million to meet 62 per cent of the annual wages bill. Last year their contribution had gone up to £32 million but their share had dropped to 42 per cent. To put it another way, it is the customers, who last year contributed £113 million of the £250 million annual running expenses, who are taking the strain.

If the Church had to rely solely on the Church Commissioners for its income it would be in far worse shape than it actually is. But happily there are other sources. Over the years the parishes, dioceses and other church organizations have built up a substantial pile of money of their own, in the shape of legacies, bequests and other donations from individual benefactors.

As money management is not a subject taught at theological college, this money, which now amounts to about £280 million, has been handed over to the professionals at the City office of the Central Board of Finance. It is in effect the church's unit trust. Because the main need is for income, it has either been put on deposit or invested in fixed interest stocks and cur-

rently produces an income of some £20 million a year.

Some dioceses are also large landowners in their own right, holding land known as glebe, which has been passed down to them over the centuries.

One of the most trenchant and clear-minded critics of the Church Commissioners is Archdeacon Derek Hayward, general secretary of the diocese of London. "The holding of such a vast investment pool," he wrote recently, "raises grave questions of ethics, efficient management, control and accountability". He feels that centralisation is to blame for the drying-up of Church giving and for a dulling of a sense of mission and commitment among Anglicans.

The archdeacon, a splendid example of the diversity of the Anglican Church, speaks with authority, for he has in his time been both businessman and cleric. While still in his early twenties he went out to India to manage the family's gin business in Calcutta.

Even after ordination, he took time off to become a commodity broker in the City where, he says, he was "not vastly successful". Now he combines his duties as vicar of Isleworth with looking after the books of the London diocese, which owns property worth nearly £6 million.

The archdeacon, unlike many, has no hand over a good portion of the diocese's income to the faceless men in Millbank. He thinks that given half a chance he could do at least as well, if not better. He questions whether it is in the best interests of the Church that the centre should hold so much of the Church's disposable wealth. Apart from anything else, he says, "the Church Commissioners' millions reinforce the image of a rich Church and it is a standard target for envious hands, a source of fortune and a constant source of misunderstanding". He has a point but, given the present set-up, that is a problem the Church just has to live with.

TOMORROW

Glebe - the Anglicans' inheritance, and how the Roman Catholics manage their money

given to this general proposition?

The general direction of the ideas that are emerging from the British side seem to me to bear a resemblance in one respect to the Council of Ministers in the European Community. There could be a joint body of committee, whose composition would change according to the subject under discussion.

Just as in the Council of Ministers the faces around the table vary from the foreign ministers one time, to the agricultural ministers or the energy ministers, so in this case, different people would be present according to whether the topic was security, or the administration of justice, or recognition of the minority's distinct identity by means of flags and emblems or Irish street names.

Two differences. But there would have to be two differences. The meetings would not always, probably not usually, be attended by ministers, and they would be purely consultative.

It would be dangerous not to be explicit on this last point. That would only breed unjustified hopes in the South and unnecessary fears in the North.

New ideas are worth exploring at this time because Anglo-Irish relations must not be left in the trough into which they tumbled in November. But it would be worth trying to put them into practice only if two conditions are fulfilled.

There would have to be the assurance of sufficiently frequent meetings on security to offer a prospect of real progress in that field. Republican enthusiasm for the new approach would also be necessary. Reluctant acceptance would not be enough. The exercise would justify the effort only if it reduced the Roman Catholic sense of grievance.



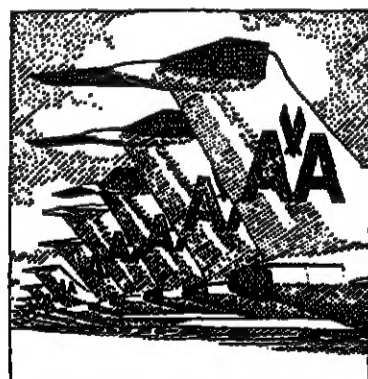
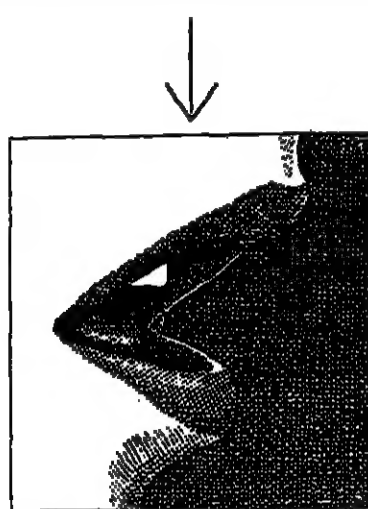
The imposing face of the Church of England: the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, and Westminster Abbey



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THE ARTS

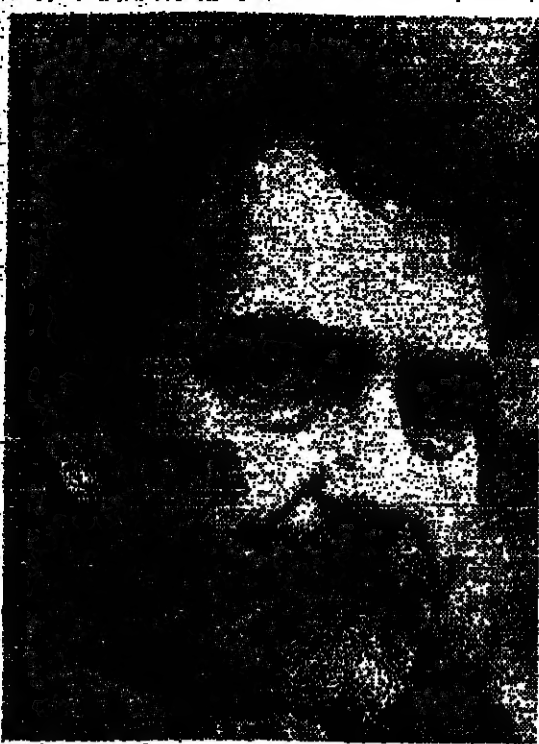
Heimat, 16 hours of rustic German life, was last year's surprise success in Western Europe with sell-out houses everywhere. It opens at the Lumière this week. David Robinson discusses Edgar Reitz's film about the changes wrought by time

Home truths

At the Munich film festival last summer, I unwisely congratulated myself on managing to miss the world premiere of *Heimat*. Sixteen hours of German rural life, planned for television, sounded altogether too much. When it turned up again at the Venice festival, though, I reluctantly settled to sample an hour... but then stayed on, fascinated, waiting every minute of it. The intervals were unwelcome banishment from the possessive world of the film.

Heimat is a phenomenon. Its effect exceeds the first impact. Even more remarkable for such a marathon film, one looks forward to seeing it again. Everywhere it seems to have the same effect. In Germany, following the Munich premiere, a series of weekend screenings was arranged in selected towns. In each place the film was shown in two parts, two on Saturday and two on Sunday, with a meal in the intervals, included in the ticket price. Soon every show was a sell-out. In the autumn, after the Venice festival, the film went on television, in eleven episodes. The first part won the very respectable figure of 26 per cent of all German screens; but by the eighth part this had risen to 36 per cent. Audiences for theatrical showings, contrary to every expectation, were maintained after the television screenings: it seemed that people wanted to catch up on parts they had missed, or simply to see it all again.

More remarkable was the success of *Heimat* in France, which is not normally reckoned the best market for German films, but where audiences were drawn by ecstatic critical notices. It is hard to predict if British critics and audiences will respond as



Writer-director Edgar Reitz and the changing face of Maria (Marita Breuer)

enthusiastically, when it opens at the Lumière at the end of the week, though the single showing at the London Film Festival was an instant sell-out.

Not least surprised by the furore around the film is its writer-director Edgar Reitz. Now 52, Reitz has been making films for 27 years. He established himself with *Mahlzeiten* in 1967, and half a score of features since then have won him an unspectacular reputation as part of the more academic school of German film makers, though films like *Die Reise nach Wien* and *Stunde Null* have revealed his penchant for telling stories.

Paradoxically, *Heimat* seems originally to have come out of the debacle of his last feature, *Der Schneider von Ulm* (1978). The critics damned it as intellectual and theoretical; the audience stayed away; and Reitz saw no chance of paying off the debts he had incurred on the film. Dispirited, he left Munich and retreated to the coast, where he began to think of his own "heimat" (the word has greater overtones than "homeland" can convey — "an abundance of desires and longings, wishes and yearnings" wrote Ernst Bloch). Reitz left his native village in Hunsrück in his teens; now he started on a huge, novel-like manuscript that grew out of his memories. The starting point was a story he remembered from his mother's telling, about a man from their village who went out one day for a beer and never came back. "I wanted to understand this man's motives; and he became the symbol for all those who leave home. This small story spawned a whole lot of

new characters and situations, mostly fictitious, and sprawling in all directions." The recurrent motif in *Heimat* is leaving-home and returning.

The huge story did not conform to any conventional form of feature film or television series, but with the financial encouragement of West German television Reitz pressed on with the production, letting the material dictate the form. In the outcome the various episodes are of different lengths and styles; the various threads of the story are taken up or put aside; one adventure may expand to the length of a feature film; other segments are in more concentrated chronicle style. Reitz's intuitive approach to his material is characterized by his use of colour. Much of the film is in black and white, but the image will suddenly burn into colour. "I used it as you might use italics or underlinings for emphasis: there was no rule — I went into colour when it seemed right to do so."

Development and pre-production of the film took two and a quarter years; the actual shooting lasted 18 months; and by the time the final prints were ready the production had lasted five years and four months. In the end the film was to involve 140 speaking parts and 5,000 extras. Small wonder that for the inhabitants of the various Hunsrück villages which were used to create the fictional *Heimat* of Schabbach the film became so much a part of their lives that they were reluctant to part with it in the end. The last part of the film includes a sequence in which all those characters have died in the 63-year course of the story come back to see their village

once more. It was not Reitz's idea; the actors insisted on it. The effect is wonderfully touching.

The film follows the adventures of one family, the Simons, and their various connections and in-laws, between 1919 and 1982; and the dramatic history of those years is seen as it is mirrored in these humble and remote lives. Not that they feel themselves humble and remote: Schabbach, they proudly proclaim, is the centre of the world: a straight line from Berlin to Paris and another from the North to the South Pole would intersect there.

"We Germans have a hard time with our stories," says Reitz. "Our history is in the way. The year 1945, the nation's 'zero hour', wiped out a lot, created a gap in people's ability to remember." *Heimat* is perhaps the most solemn reflection upon the guilty years. The horror is no less, but more subtle than in the usual presentations of the Hitler era, since we see how easily and comfortably Nazism could grow into the lives and habits of ordinary folk.

The characters are the most important attraction of *Heimat*. Even those who speak only a line or two remain more memorable, much more apparently people than any general run of screen characters. Perhaps the trick is in the casting. Reitz found most of his actors in obscure provincial theatres; but others are students or teachers or pastors or farmers. The magnificent old patriarch of the Simon family is played by Willi Burger, a blacksmith and farmer from Nannhausen. Maria, the woman whose 82-year life and death provide the central thread of the film, is

played by Marita Breuer, a beautiful 33-year-old actress whose transformation into a peasant woman ageing before our eyes through 63 years is little less than miraculous.

The obvious attempt to account for *Heimat* as soap opera elevated to a higher plane of art is deceptive or at least insufficient. Along with Ingmar Bergman's *Fanny und Alexander* and, perhaps, Fassbinder's *Berlin-Alexanderplatz*, *Heimat* demonstrates that far from being an inferior and restricting area of operation for the film maker, television can actually liberate him from the constrictions of form honoured in the cinema.

Like Bergman, Reitz demonstrates that given this larger canvas the filmmaker can develop different possibilities. *Heimat* is very much a film about change. Times change, places change, manners and morals change; and it is perhaps the first film to explore in detail the phenomenon that people change too. The carefree and charming adolescent can wither into a mean ne'er-do-well; while the madame of a Berlin brothel can mature into a tolerant and resourceful provincial matron. Overaken by events, the film's heroine — whom we have seen grow into a prototypical matriarch in the ideal mould of a Henry Porter or Paula Wessely — may suddenly disillusion us with a gesture of terrible meanness. Part of the power of *Heimat* is that we recognize that this is true and human, not movie.

"I cannot explain it. For me it is the question, what did we do? Because in the production of the film we were completely concentrated on telling these stories. Nothing else." Therein, perhaps, lies the secret of *Heimat*.

PUBLISHING

On your shelf

One Desmond Rayner of Harrow, Middlesex, wrote recently to the lively book trade fortnightly, *Publishing News*, to report how well Claire Rayner did in the second handout of Public Lending Right money. Presumably Mr Rayner is Mrs Rayner's husband. Her borrowings were up by 10 per cent on the previous year, totalling over one million. "Of this," writes Mr Rayner, "983,621 borrowings were for fiction. This would seem to indicate that the reading public are more prepared to spend their money on non-fiction."

Mrs Rayner, judging by the fortunes of other authors to whom I have spoken, is, if not unique, certainly in a minority in having received more money this time than last. However, what I would question is Mr Rayner's contention that because fiction is substantially borrowed it is, by implication, substantially unthought.

Many people buy novels, admittedly often in paperback, because they have first borrowed them from their local library, read and enjoyed them, and then, whether or not because immediately they want to read them again, wish to possess a copy of their own.

One of the joys of fiction is that anyone can, at least in theory, enjoy a "serious" novel (look at the success of Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose* — or is it, as the Americans think, the most unread bestseller of all time?) whereas not everyone is, even in principle, interested in all non-fiction. Many people would not pick up a history of the railways, a biography of a medieval monk, a philosophical treatise, or an account of an expedition to the Andes, let alone an autobiography of a minor (or major) political figure.

Why do publishers go on bringing out so much new fiction, more usually each year than the previous year? Because novels can — not must, but can, and often do — soar away. The publishing of non-fiction is less speculative, more schematic. If there are 300 rat catchers in Britain, there should be a definite sale of at least 300 copies of the memoirs of a rat catcher. Well, yes; unless the 300 rat catchers feel they have had their fill of rat catching. Likewise a history of Venice, of which there are a few already.

Or how to manage life. But what if you feel you have failed? Do you really believe some complete stranger could provide the solution?

That is why Claire Rayner's PLR statistics are as they are, and why the authors most borrowed are novelists. Readers want, even crave for fiction, with all it implies; not to be reassured in their ignorance, or even knowledge. But to be imaginatively transported.

This column, obviously, is written not specifically for people in the book trade but for readers of *The Times* interested in ideas and trends in publishing. I wrote a piece a few weeks ago eulogizing Martyn Goff and the work he has done as director of the National Book League. In a few words out of many I suggested that the time might have come for him to pass on the mantle to another.

This has caused the most unholy row among book trade people, who, for reasons best known to themselves, have chosen to ignore my praise of Mr Goff. The fact is that over the last year or two quite a number of senior book trade people have felt that Mr Goff should go. This is not because anyone believes other than that he has achieved miracles on a shoestring but because every so often institutions of this kind need a breath of fresh air. It is good to know that the NBL, now under the chairmanship of Frank Delaney, (which is not by the way one of my pseudonyms) is about to reveal new and expensive plans.

Those who thought I did not realize that the NBL is an independent body and not, for instance, a branch of the Publishers' Association should read my piece again. There is no escaping that fact that the Book League's effectiveness depends to an alarming degree upon the extent of its funding year by year by publishers. Publishers, by and large, have been unimaginative in supporting it. Naturally there are honourable exceptions. More than anyone, Martyn Goff has strong views on that subject. He knows who the true supporters of the NBL are, and they are not necessarily only those who stand up to be counted when the League is criticized in a constructive spirit.

E. J. Craddock

Galleries

Glittering family treasures

Rare Silver from the Golden Age
Centraal Museum, Utrecht

The importance of Utrecht as one of the centres of Dutch mannerism (the other was Haarlem) has long been recognized by scholars such as Jakob Rosenberg and Seymour Slive, who in their *Dutch Art and Architecture 1600-1800* (Pelican History of Art, 1966, revised 1972) emphasize the religious and social background to this highly sophisticated style. Utrecht was a leading centre of Catholicism, even during the seventeenth century, and its artists, whose close links with Italy gave them their special individuality, were much patronized by the Court at the Hague and the Dutch aristocracy. The influence of the Emperor Rudolph II's court painter, Bartholomaeus Spranger, was disseminated through the engravings of Hendrick Goltzius, who settled in Haarlem, where he died in 1617.

The family's origins can be traced no further back than the beginning of the sixteenth century, but by 1600 Willem was sufficiently well established for him to fill the office of *deurwaarder* or gatekeeper, while his brother Jan traded in silver (naturally), porcelain and property and had links with the Dutch East India Company. He was also a brewer, and it is probably no coincidence that one of his son Ernst's first major commissions was for a standing cup for the Brewers' Guild of Haarlem (Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem). Dated 1604, the body is decorated with scenes from the life of St Martin designed by Goltzius, while the cover is surmounted by a group of St Martin dividing his cloak with the beggar, from a model by Hendrick de Keyser.

It is an essentially conservative, if sumptuous, piece of work, especially when compared with the *Plaque with Minerva and the Muses* (Rijksmuseum,

Amsterdam) executed by his cousin Paulus in the same year. Born about 1570, he travelled extensively, reaching Munich, where he worked for Maximilian I, Salzburg and eventually Prague, where he was patronized by Rudolph II. He was particularly famous for such "silver pictures", in which he exploits not only the full range of contorted poses so beloved of the Mannerists, but also delightful landscape details taken from his own drawings: in the *Pan and Syrinx* (signed and dated 1603; Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam), for instance, he includes part of his *Panorama of Salzburg*.

His most spectacular achievement is the *Jasper ewer with gold mounts* (Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna), made in 1608 for Rudolph II. The richly worked ewer was created in Milan by the Missoni workshop about 1590 and the gold mounts added by Paulus turn it into an object of breathtaking magnificence, which is somehow not at all vulgar.

His elder brother Adam also produced the usual range of *plaquettes* and *tezze*, but in his later works he breaks away from the conventions of Mannerism to create the extraordinary phenomenon known as the "auricular" style, which anticipates Art Nouveau and even Surrealism.

In 1627 Christiaan took over his father's studio, whose contents he later published, with engravings by Theodore de Quessel. Christiaan takes the auricular style to its ultimate in fantasy, creating in his *Dish with a Dolphin* (Victoria and Albert Museum) an object in which the material of which it is made seems no longer to matter. It was produced in 1635 for Charles I and is possibly some indication of the appearance of the 17 articles for St George's Chapel, Windsor, that he produced between 1634 and 1639 and which were melted down at the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642.

Jeffery Daniels

Concerts

Chicago SO/Solti
Festival Hall/BBC2/
Radio 3

If last Thursday's bicentennial concert for *The Times* was rather a special occasion for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Sir Georg Solti (as well as for us), Saturday's televised concert, the final one of their European tour, was scarcely less so. No curtain raiser could have been more apposite than John Corigliano's *Tournameus Overture*, composed in 1967, but taken up by this orchestra only last year. The title of the piece explains it. Section vies with section, principals with principals, in the virtuosity stakes, working from a simple initial three-note idea. The outcome is an easily assimilated, very public work, but one that still manages to transcend its own apparent superficiality. When its exultations happen to be from Chicago you can only gape in awe.

You also had to do that in Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony, for listening to it as a tragic work is impossible after a century of too many performances. The famous Chicago brass duty made their mark in its first and last movements, playing with what can only be described as splendidly refined garishness, while in the Scherzo

the strings showed that their pizzicato playing is as finely honed as their steely bowed sound. There were superlative woodwind solos, too, from bassoon and oboe in the slow movement and from the stiletto piccolo in the Scherzo.

Between these works there was Mozart's Symphony No 39. How ironic that just near door, in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Haydn weekend was helping to remove the cobwebs of romantic performing traditions in such music while at the same time Sir Georg was consolidating them. But though one may justifiably argue that this sort of performance distorts Mozart's intentions, particularly in the leaden-footed first movement, the heresy was perpetrated convincingly enough.

Stephen Pettitt

LCP/Norrington
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Roger Norrington really is the most extraordinary musician. Not content with the little matter of completely overturning received notions of how music of the classical period should sound (and by implication of what it says) he has now invented an entirely new type of concert. "The Haydn Experience" spans three days in

which music-making, rehearsal, lectures and an exhibition were all directed towards a performance of *The Creation* yesterday.

Even taken on their own, the events of Friday evening were valuably didactic, although the efforts of the Drutische Wind Ensemble, who played the obscure anonymous Bohemian composer's arrangements of portions of both *The Seasons* and *The Creation*, were wasted in the crowded foyer. Once inside the auditorium, however, the atmosphere was transformed.

Norrington's linking narrations revealed him for the thinking musician that his performances have always implied while his choice of music entertained as well as instructed.

Perversely, one might have thought, to begin with Mozart, yet how better, on reflection to set the scene than with the overture to *Die Zauberflöte*, especially given this crisp performance, in which the London Classical Players gave life to the theory that standards of period-style playing are low.

But we were here for Haydn, and an embarrassment of riches (together with the odd trifle like the charmingly naive *March for the Prince of Wales*) followed. There were the startlingly advanced harmonies and wind scoring of the introduction to

the fifth movement of the *Seven Last Words*; the monumental finale of the "Oxford" Symphony, worked from a joke of an idea; the drama of *Insanae et Ianae Curiae* and of the curious late madrigal *The Storm*. There was even a world premiere, the overture to the opera *Le Pescatrici* of 1770, a delightful fresh piece found only in 1972. But nothing summed up more completely Haydn's achievement than the *Agnus Dei* from the *Nelson Mass*, where the Schütz Choir, the orchestra and the team of solo singers (Eiddwen Harry, Joyce Jarvis, Maldwyn Davies and David Thomas) rejoiced with us all in this marvellous music.

S.P.

LPO/Chailly
Festival Hall

When the LPO's "Classics for Pleasure" series moves to the Festival Hall after 31 years in the Royal Albert Hall, and when this is linked to a dauntingly entitled "GLC Funded Marketing Initiative", one wonders what to review: the music or the audience. In this era of hard-nosed financial realism orchestras may value comments on the latter more than the former, so I must report that among a

capacity crowd I spied no mink coats.

Presumably it was chance that led to the selection of two of the greatest marketing initiatives in musical history: Dvořák's "New World" Symphony and Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto. Both were written by canny Europeans for a fistful of dollars. In the concerto Bruno Leonardo Gelber demonstrated some old-style showmanship, assaulting the foursome technical complexities with a thrusting aggression.

Chailly had some pertinent tempo variations of his own to make in the "New World". He took special care to impart an unusual articulation to the first movement's famous second subject, and lavished equal affection on the Trio's trilling interchanges, managing to retain

Elsewhere, his concern for a warm, smooth blend of sound was paramount, with exchanges between woodwind and strings being dovetailed superbly and the brass bringing a rich glow rather than a blaze to the finale. Stravinsky's Suites Nos 1 and 2 appeared to fit Chailly's temperament less closely, and he seemed to be playing down the eccentric aspects of these parodistic miniatures until the anarchic final Galop.

Richard Morrison

Television

Dr Dorothy Rowe, an Australian clinical psychologist practising in Lincolnshire, believes that the spiritual malaise which the ancients called *acridie* or *melancholia*, is the cause of much of what we call depression and that failure to identify our deepest and often imprisoning beliefs has led to our inability to cure those suffering from it.

In *Everyman's The Mind Box*, on BBC1 last night, Dr Rowe talked about her therapy. Her theory is that centuries of spiritual teaching have implanted attitudes to life which some cannot resolve. Their reaction is to isolate themselves, to stay imprisoned within a box.

It is not what happened in childhood, she said, but the kind of conclusions made of

what happened that were important. Those who reached the wrong ones did so by wrong thinking. Depression was self-created and had to be self-removed. Sufferers had to acquire what those ancients called "wisdom in living".

To assist sufferers, Dr Rowe opens a dialogue, a process she called "laddering", beginning simply and reaching down to the underlying malaise. She demonstrated with an underdepressed student whose greatest fear, it transpired, would have been isolation.

One patient, who said he was cured, said self-revelation had been most painful. He had greater tranquillity now but rather missed the highs and lows. He did not regret the

effort but felt less of a person. Angela Tilby's programme was dramatic but at the cost, I thought, of exposition.

The *Natural World*, on BBC2, seemed to be half-seriously, and rather repetitiously trying to rehabilitate the rat, the peg being the closing of the Chinese Year of the Rat.

Contrary to popular belief, and James Cagney's legendary remark, the rat is surprisingly clean. It is also very brainy and makes rabbits sluggish when it comes to breeding. Man finds it handy for research but that hardly justifies it a place in our affections. The rat carries bugs, destroys hundreds of thousands of tons of food, and looks ghastly.

Dennis Hackett

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Police man with an arresting eye

An unusual exhibition of photographs by pop star Andy Summers (below) has just opened in London. Michael Young reviews his highly acclaimed work and that of other musical photographers whose mood of the 1980s



THE pop star as photographer? The very idea may be lamentable to many of us but it is catching on. In the last 12 months three superstars have published books of photographs. Two of these, *Throb* by Andy Summers and *Interference* by Duran Duran's Nick Rhodes, were created as a way of alleviating the tedium encountered when on tour. The third book, *Perspectives* by David Sylvian of the now defunct Japan, is more reflective and self-absorbed.

"There is an indescribable boredom about hotel rooms," says Andy Summers, an exhibition of whose photographs opened last week at the Photographers' Gallery in London. The view is echoed by Nick Rhodes. "Spending time in them is one of the most laborious things that can happen to anyone," he says. "There are four blank walls and usually a television set. Time often hangs very heavy. One day I went into a room and there was a cable television set jammed between two stations sending out the most amazing random colours." Rhodes snapped a picture of the screen and *Interference* was born.

For Summers *Throb* had a much longer period of gestation. He bought his first decent camera, a Nikon, back in 1979. Since then his eagerness to learn has led him to consume books on photography - and when he tours with Police his luggage is weighted down by them. *Throb* attempts to interpret that life as the band travels through bleak hotel rooms awash with the detritus of travel.

Summers's photographs are eclectic and proclaim the influence of the American giants of photography, Ralph Gibson and Duane Michals. Truncated figures captured half in the frame and half out, are pure Gibson. But there is great humour, too, and an understanding of photography's potential for surrealism. Also Summers has acquired an ability to perceive elegance in the simplest of objects.

Not for him the instant dazzling colour-saturated Polaroids or the oblique intellectual aesthetics of so many contemporary photographers - and he has no truck either with others of his own profession who carry cameras. Instead a painstaking apprenticeship in the traditional mysteries of the medium occupies him.

When he bought a Nikon he made a commitment and along with his guitar it became part of his life. "I have my guitar and my camera - they are the two constant things in a world of change," he says. Music and photography are linked in other ways, too. "There are a surprising number of parallels both technically and in the way you proceed during the early stages of composition. And if you are continually creating in one discipline it becomes very easy to move across into the other. The important thing is



Three of Summers's pictures at the Photographers' Gallery exhibition. Above, his favourite, almost nightmarish, photograph of a man leading a horse into the sea. Left, his guitar and right, one which is typical of his sense of humour.

"I am moved by the clarity of black and white in the same way as music. It is a gut reaction. Black and white has the ability to record reality in a way that colour does not. Colour reduces things and makes them less real."

to have your mind locked into creative thinking." Unlike Nick Rhodes and David Sylvian, who work exclusively in colour, Summers prefers black and white. "I am moved by the clarity of black and white in the same way as music. It is a gut reaction. Black and white has the ability to record reality in a way that colour does not. Colour reduces things and makes them less real."

The decor of Summers's home reflects that simple clarity, all monochrome and dove-grey carpets. When he finished *Throb* it was some time before he could pick up a

camera. But the prospect of the Photographers' Gallery showing has given him the impetus to work toward another book.

The new book will be very different. The photographs he is taking now are more intimate portraits of his family and friends shot on a Leica.

Discovering the Leica has been a revelation altering the way Summers perceives photography. "Everything about the camera is so different from the Nikon. It feels so beautiful in the hand, is unobtrusive and when you press that shutter there is that gentle discreet click. The Leica makes me

stand still and think about composition and framing of the picture. I take fewer pictures - but they are somehow more classic in that they are carefully thought through."

Summers talks about photography with an easy eloquence but his attachment to the subject goes beyond just taking pictures. He is a serious collector, too, of vintage and modern prints. In an upstairs room where a word processor casts an emerald green light from a corner is a huge mahogany plan chest crammed with photographic treasures.

Summers pulled open a drawer after drawer to reveal prints by Bert Hardy,

Cecil Beaton, Kertész, Baron de Meyer, Angus McBean, Brassai and many more all carefully mounted and neatly stored between sheets of tissue paper.

The collection is full of gems. One that caught my eye was a triptych by Man Ray of his one time mistress, Lee Miller. She stands before a window naked to the waist. Summers's personal favourite is a set of prints from Winston Link's "night trick" series, a slice of American railroad life from the 1930s, printed by Link himself.

Most of these prints were bought in New York. "Britain is so impoverished in that field," Summers says. "There is the Photographers' Gallery but, outside the auction houses, nowhere else to buy prints over here. The American attitude to photography is different - it is not something confined to the fringes of the arts."

The fact that the Photographers' Gallery is staging Summers's exhibition undoubtedly confers a certain status. He has set himself apart from other pop stars who simply take up a Polaroid camera and start clicking. As a gallery spokesman said: "He uses his contemporary eye in a very special way - and all the time his sensibility is improving."

TOMORROW

The first of a three-part series on the great British obsession with their pets



Duran Duran's Nick Rhodes, left, with a sample of his genre. Third left, David Sylvian, Polaroid camera in hand, and one of the 'perspectives' from his book of photographs

Enter stage right, a National threat

The noticeable lack of warmth in Sir Peter Hall's riverside office reflects the chill wind of unsympathetic bureaucracy currently whipping around the close-cut skirts of the National Theatre.

Sir Peter's self-imposed restrictions on his office central heating are in direct contrast to his popular image as a man of flamboyant extravagance. Indeed, Arts Minister Lord Gowrie's wry description of him as "a great director... not legendary anywhere in the arts world for skimping and saving" is a view shared by many people in Sir Peter's profession.

None the less, as the highly respected, if controversial, director of the National Theatre, he has achieved both box office success and worldwide critical acclaim while, for the most part, managing to balance the National's precarious finances.

It is scarcely surprising that Sir Peter should feel bitterly resentful about the Government's failure to provide what he believes to be the financial support necessary to enable the National to continue to succeed and excel.

He claims that the National is suffering because of its record of good business management over the last few years. Despite the steady erosion of its Arts Council subsidy, the theatre managed to break even between 1979 and 1983 as well as boasting audiences averaging 80 per cent of capacity during the past four years.

This year, however, a £200,000 deficit is forecast unless the Arts Council increases its subsidy to keep up with the present rate of inflation. While the Council's grants to the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Royal Opera House and the English National Opera have risen by 13 per cent, 76 per cent, and 56 per cent respectively since 1979, the National's has increased by only 44 per cent.

For 1985/86, the National will receive £6,705,200 from the Arts Council representing an increase of 1.9 per cent against a 5 per cent increase in the rate of inflation. What they need, according to Sir Peter, in order to implement their existing artistic policies and belated wage increases, is an extra £1½ million.

Without it, the 400-seat Cottesloe Theatre which costs £½ million a year to run will be in jeopardy. For even with every seat sold, the smallest of the National's three theatres can earn only £¼ million a year. And it is on the stage of the Cottesloe that many new and experimental works receive their first airing.

The National's chairman, Lord Rayne, says: "The only way we can achieve immediate emergency savings would be by closing the Cottesloe." And Sir Peter's enterprising plan to create five acting companies would also have to be shelved.

It is a poignant situation for the man who has invested so much of his time, energy and undoubted genius in what has become a monument to Britain's artistic supremacy.

"What is irritating is that the only way to get money out of this Government is by being prodigal and producing big deficits. You make profits and get penalized," Sir Peter says. "If we had been successful we would have been bailed out. But because of our good housekeeping and the fantastic success of *Gypsies and Dolls*, we coped on our own, and now they don't want to know."

Today, while still waiting for the formal confirmation of this

year's subsidy, Sir Peter will be having a private meeting with Lord Gowrie in a last-ditch attempt to persuade him to release more money from Government funds to safeguard the National's future.

Whatever the outcome, it promises to be a lively discussion. Lord Gowrie, who confesses to being a great admirer of Sir Peter and a great fan of the National's productions, has so far refused to be swayed.

"There are many theatrical directors in this country who would love to have the National Theatre and nearly £7 million a year from the Government to run it," he says tartly.

"If I have any criticism of the National it is that they've not put their heart into getting additional sponsorship or business backing quite to the degree that the Royal Shakespeare Company has. And I hope they will."

In fact, the National's sponsorship for 1983/84 amounted to £264,000, almost £10,000 more than the RSC. Even so, it is a sensitive point and Sir Peter is quick to point out that since the National started courting sponsorship and patronage funds three years ago, they have raised £650,000, with John Flaxman giving them £250,000 over three years.

So far, the National has utilized its sponsorship for studio productions, foyer music, tours and educational programmes, but until now it has deliberately avoided attracting sponsors for major productions.

"There is a fear on the part of many arts organizations that success in attracting sponsorship might jeopardize their fundings from the Arts Council or the local authority," says Arts Council chairman and secretary-general Luke Rittner.

"However, to my knowledge, there has never been an instance where the Arts Council has reduced a grant to a client who has been successful in attracting sponsorship."

And while insisting that the Arts Council's grant to the National has "increased considerably over the past five or six years," Rittner adds: "I accept that a whole chunk of that grant is going on running costs - keeping the building watertight, heated and lit."

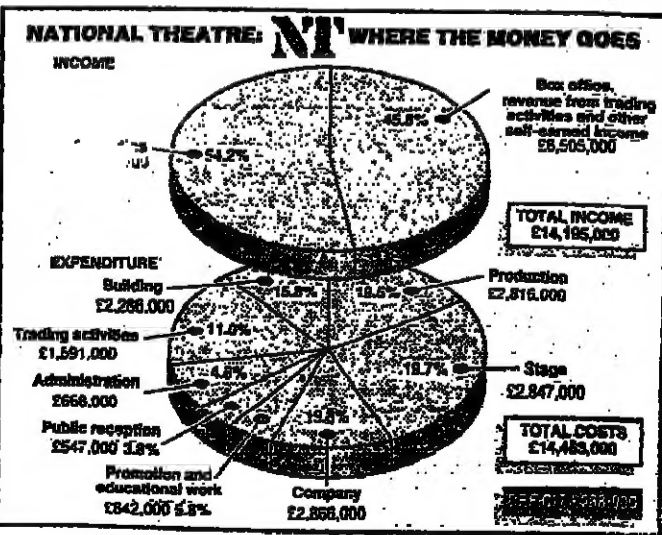
"More tourists than ever before will be in this country in 1985 and many will be here because of our theatre's unique reputation," says Sir Peter. "What is the Government going to realize that the arts make money for this country?"

The National Theatre's own artistic record is impressive. Since its establishment nine years ago it has staged 45 new plays and 90 revivals of established works. According to its own estimates, it has saved the Arts Council, the GLC and the taxpayer over £4 million since 1979, as well as returning another £4 million annually to the Treasury through VAT, income tax and national insurance contributions.

With 10 hits in current production including *Wild Honey* and *Fool for Love*, it seems extraordinary that the National Theatre should be fighting for its life. Its record-breaking production of *Gypsies and Dolls* which brought in a profit of £720,000 over three years, will be reopening in the West End this summer.

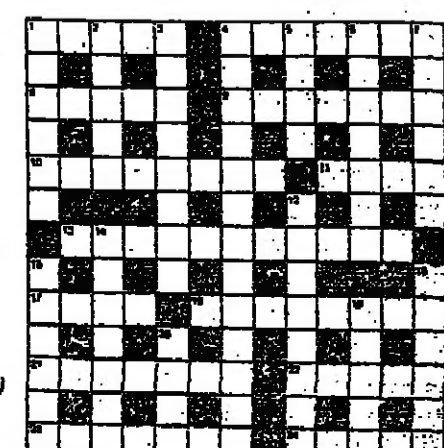
"Inevitably, our artistic standards will be affected by whatever cuts we are forced to make," says Sir Peter.

Sally Brompton



CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 561)

- ACROSS
- Theme (5)
 - Bagpipe music (7)
 - Preface (5)
 - Keep out (7)
 - Subversion (8)
 - Horse strap (4)
 - Kind (11)
 - Love excessively (5)
 - Disturb (8)
 - Court pandit (7)
 - Separate (5)
 - Christen (7)
 - Old Lancs enemy (5)
- DOWN
- Typewriter user (6)
 - Feeling honoured (5)
 - Torpid (8)
 - Prevalence (13)
 - Spine (4)
 - Rich (7)
 - Scrapping soil (6)
 - Mockery (8)
 - Emergence (7)
 - Casual task (3,3)
 - Rubble (6)
 - Atan tings (5)
 - Bantu warriors (4)



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All at sea in the New Pacific

moreover... Miles Kingston

Translator: Well, basically, he likes the look of our new equipment. If the Japanese could have held out till the invention of video, they could have got some smashing pictures. Also, he says he was in England for a while before the war and wants to know how Fulham are doing in the League. Voice over: What he could not possibly know is that the League is now named after a Japanese camera, as we'll be hearing in our series "The New Europe". Cut to a pile of Coca Cola tins. Cut to a man on surf-board. Australia! The land discovered 200 years ago by Captain Cook, looking to open up the Pacific for Western holiday-makers. Close-up of old print, showing Cook being speared to death. For Cook, his holiday ended in disaster, but now things are organized properly. Close-up of toothless Manganian. Voice over: No, we've had that shot already. Cut to American sun-bathing by a Honolulu pool. Voice over: But how has exposure to the Pacific changed the way of life of these simple tourists? American: Fundamentally, I have now switched to a diet of fresh fruit and coconut milk. When I get home to California I'm going to sell up my business and sit around in a grass skirt all day. Cut to Chinese New Year. Cut to sumo wrestling. Cut to sheep farm. Voice over: A mere 5,000 miles to the south lies New Zealand, where new arrivals from Vietnam are beginning to change the social pattern. Cut to Vietnamese sheep farmer in a Land Rover. How has he managed to adapt? Vietnamese: Totally, sport. Or is that Australian? Anyway, I've got 40,000 acres, a new kilt and membership of the local Caledonian club, where we get together once a month to do Highland dancing. Cut to Angkor Wat. Cut to American GI garlanded with flowers. Cut to hurricane.

MONDAY PAGE

Sponsorship of individual Third World children has produced problems but many British families continue to provide personal support

Last call for 'postcard parenthood'

On the face of it, the sponsoring of Third World children is an uncomplicated act of charity. You pay your money, probably just a few pounds a month, and you take your choice - boy or girl, India, Somalia, Senegal and so on.

As the child grows, so the correspondence continues, perhaps developing into a regular exchange of news and photographs, and the sponsor himself matures into something between a pen-friend and a long-distance godparent.

At times such as these, with images of starving children dominating the news, the number of donors to appeals rises sharply, levelling off again when the disaster recedes from the television screens.

Although the practice of sponsorship has seen a tremendous growth in Britain during the past decade, the rationale has been called into question lately, and a backlash is starting.

That simple gesture of compassion, runs the new wisdom, can be a divisive, patronizing and even cruel device. The more one examines the arguments, the clearer it becomes that the issues raised by sponsorship are, although small, the very ones at the heart of the great debate about international aid programmes.

The appeals of sponsoring are obvious. First, it puts a human face on financial help, both for the giver and the receiver; second, it can help to inform both parties about the daily realities of life in a completely alien country; third, it is a remarkably cost-effective means of raising funds, given that in most schemes a "parent" will sign a commitment to maintain his payment for six or seven years. It means that without the extra cost of a renewed appeal, the agency can bank on a sum of perhaps £500 over a known period of time.

The trouble is that all too often the need of sponsorship by one child causes envy and division within the family itself.

or in the wider community. True, there are many instances in which the education of one selected child acts as a teaching catalyst for all the brothers and sisters, but this is not always the case.

There are also other dangers in "postcard parenthood" that are driving that traditional approach - in which the handout and a postcard arrive from a strange family in an unreachable Utopia - out of fashion. It creates aspirations to western lifestyles which cannot be fulfilled, and reinforces the consciousness of dependence.

However, while these fears are committing the aid agencies more and more towards a form of sponsorship directed at whole communities or specific projects, the one-to-one system is still attracting donors. The reason for this apparent paradox is that large American-based agencies such as World Vision and the Christian Children's Fund have stepped up their recruitment in Britain.

Even some of the fund-raisers and organizers still concede that if one is faced with a mountainous, meaningless statistic of human misery, the prospect of one single face with whom the giver can relate is not only attractive but also practical.

Kevin Maloney, of Actionaid, says: "Although the trend is now firmly towards helping whole families and communities, there is always a danger that the professionals in our line can become... walls, shall we say, intellectually and...". Actionaid, which was set up in 1972 by the late Cecil Jackson-Cole as an offshoot of Help the Aged, was by last year sponsoring 75,000 children, representing an increase of 25 per cent on 1982. It now operates in nine countries, and reckons that every contributor's full subscription is transferred to the overseas programme, with administrative costs being met from tax-recovered money.

There are some examples of the programmes funded by the agencies.

• Night classes for working children in India

• A credit scheme to promote self-employment of the rural poor in Bangladesh

• Sinking wells for irrigation and drinking in The Gambia

• Construction of schools for children and families in Uganda

If Actionaid lays stress on providing an education which will be of use to the child in its own environment, Foster Parents Plan, which recently re-established a branch in England, takes the family as its prime unit.

The agency was started in 1937 by two Englishmen to help children during the Spanish Civil War. Worldwide it is now sponsoring 340,000 families in 22 countries. There are 4,000 subscribers in Britain, each paying £9 a month.

The organization provides an interesting example of the way in which the two concepts of a family link and locally based aid can be fused.

If you mention Ethiopia to the organization's national director Elizabeth Liddell, a hand-wringing tone comes into her voice; not just because of the tragic famine in that country, but because she and her organization have long been advocating the very kind of preventive measures which are now being so widely discussed.

All the work done in the "fostered" families' villages, whether it is teaching about sanitation, nutrition, or immunization, is supervised by a field director with a locally trained staff. The long-term aim is a gradual severing of the western umbilical cord.

"When I asked our fosters what their priorities were," says Elizabeth Liddell with evident pleasure, "they put development programmes at the top of the list, our financial accountability second, and personal relationships with the fostered families last."

But even if this implies a healthy shift away from the possessiveness of charity, it does not wipe out the problem of public ignorance about the realities of cost and administration. One part-time worker for a large aid agency tells the story of a woman who sent a £10 cheque in response to a famine appeal and took umbrage when she received not a letter of thanks but a request for more.

"What she and many others cannot grasp is that every time an agency writes a letter it can cost as much as £5 a go, which comes straight out of the money which should be finding its way to those who need it most."

In the case of Aid for India, a fledgling London organization



A smile of thanks: Peddikka Ennmololla who enjoys an Ulster family's support

run by Buddhists, it is a single slum community at Dapodi, to which the 4,000 sponsors' money goes. The idea is to attack the cycle of poverty which often obliges a family to put its young children to work.

Vimalakirti, an ex-Untouchable and a member of the team planning a series of educational resource centres in western India, points out that if those children are really to help their parents in the long term, their contribution will be far

greater as young men and women with adequate schooling.

He says: "Parents do understand the importance of education - it's so obvious to them when one of their relatives or someone from their community gets a good education, finds a job and leads a completely different life... but because it's a question of their own stomachs, when it comes to starvation, they just don't see any alternative but to send their children out to support the family."

Aid for India has just four staff one of whom is part-time; the director, Andrew Goodman, receives a £4,000 salary. It supports two medical workers in Dapodi, two social workers, three kindergarten teachers, and one sewing, one literary and one sports teacher.

As with the more progressive of the larger bodies, the essence of this philosophy is to promote the skills and learning which are at the very root of self-sufficiency. The radical ideal behind that philosophy is that, all Third World charities should, in some distant future, bring about the conditions for their own demise.

Despite the failure of the Brandt Report's aspiration to trade rather than aid, something comparable is catching on in the sponsorship world. The handout and postcard approach is going out of fashion.

Alan Franks

DONORS WHO BELIEVE THE SACRIFICE IS WORTHWHILE

'I am worried our sins will be visited on our children'

Nicholas Gifford - freelance cameraman from London.

I was in Nepal last year filming about leprosy for an American-financed television series. I must say I was aghast at it all. After a while you can sense very quickly when one of them is really ill. We do live in such a fool's paradise over here; of course we've got poverty, but it's just on a totally different scale. My mother came from south India and I've still got some relations over there. I've also visited the country several times.

We pay about £80 a year through Aid for India for their community work in Pune. In

theory I'm in favour of channelling help or money to someone you know. The trouble is that it entails writing three or four times a year, and to be quite honest I don't think I'd myself up to the mark. A terrible admission, but true.

Something like 15 million children will have died in the course of the year. Anything at all that's going to help these villages in vital, and a young initiative like Aid for India should be encouraged. I am worried that our sins will one day be visited on our children. What we really need is the mirroring of individual gifts on a much larger scale.

'We are paying £90 a month for Peddikka's education'

The Quinn family, of Bangor, Co. Down, Northern Ireland.

We've been sponsoring a young Indian girl, Peddikka Ennmololla, for five years, through Actionaid. We pay about £90 a month on a banker's order, and we will continue to do so until Peddikka has finished her education. After that, we'll sponsor another Third World child.

Even though we live in a troubled area like this, we do have a sense of guilt about our high standard of living in the West. We saw a programme on the BBC a few years ago, and the message really got home to us. The response to that was so great that when we wrote off, there were no children left to sponsor.

When we write to Peddikka, we try to involve the children (and the dog) as much as possible, telling her about

our life here. It's a small seaside town about 12 miles from Belfast, and a bit like Lytham St Annes, near Blackpool.

The correspondence takes a while to get through because we have to go through the Rural Development Trust in Bangalore, and her letters back are channelled through Actionaid to guard against the possibility of more begging letters.

For a while it was mostly drawings that we were receiving, but a year ago we got our first letter, and that is always quite an experience. She tells us all about her life - such a different one from ours - and about the religious festivals she goes to.

Peddikka is now 11. Had it not been for the sponsorship, she would have been put out to beg at the age of seven, like so many of the other Untouchables.

'Joseph is the human image on which we focus'

Harvey Linahan, geography teacher at Brighton, Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College.

Our 'foster child' (shown with his mother) is called Joseph. He lives in northern Kenya in a subsistence farming community and is now 12 years old, the same age as the eldest of my own three. It's important to stress right at the start that through this particular scheme, Foster Parents Plan, the money - we pay just over £100 a year - does not just go to the individual child, but to the whole community. I suppose you could say that Joseph himself therefore is the face, the human image on which we focus. I worked in Africa for ten years, part of which time I spent in a rural school in Zambia, and I know that in many places a child is just not admitted to a school unless he owns a uniform. Some of our money helps with that sort of expenditure.

As a teacher, I'm very wary of forcing the message down my children's throats, but I do



hope that they will gradually absorb information about life in a developing country and eventually make their own contributions. There is a tremendous potential cash flow to be had from this sort of fostering. It makes so much more sense than a one-off lump of conscience money resulting from an appeal.

More help please

From: David O'Brien, Loughborough Road, Birstall, Leicester. As a member of the Alzheimer's Society, which is concerned with dementia sufferers and their carers, I heartily endorse everything that Professor Elaine Murphy told Ross Davies (Champion of the elderly, January 21).

In particular, while private nursing homes, the great majority of which, as Professor Murphy says, will not accept anyone who shows signs of confusion or dementia, receive financial support to the tune of £200 per person per week, the financial assistance available to the dementia sufferer, being cared for by relatives at home, is pitiful.

Apart from such things as certain services from the local DHSS, the Attendance Allowance is the only financial assistance available. Currently, the Attendance Allowance is £19.10 per week if it is adjudged that only day-care is necessary, and £28.60 a week if 24-hour care is required. How much nursing care can that buy?

Finally, if a place is found for a sufferer, in a private nursing home, the DHSS will only help with the cost by means of supplementary benefit. If the applicant has assets of less than £3,000.

Coordinate the care

From: Mrs R J Rodden, The Long House, High Street, Littlebury, Saffron Walden, Essex.

Ross Davies' attempts to be witty about the term 'psychogeriatrics' and arch about Elaine Murphy as the first holder of a chair in the subject (women professors aren't still funny, are they?) might be just a little exasperating, to those coping with senile dementia in the elderly, who could be feeling that they need all the accurate information and practical help they can find.

Professor Murphy's - and Bexley's - plan for a local, small-scale residential facility providing 24-hour care for the

TALKBACK

senile elderly, is humane and imaginative. But when will even a fraction of the demand for such homes be met?

Meanwhile, some help could be given to those caring for either the senile or the merely physically frail elderly, speedily and at little cost. Experience in two different areas of this county suggests that there is a good deal of very real assistance available (the "community care" about which politicians are not exactly lucid?), ranging from the help of district nurses to Meals on Wheels, home help to day care and holiday relief, granny-sitting, help with transport and the loan of equipment. But often the assistance does not seem to be coordinated.

Counsel at hand

From: Professor G. R. Wilcock, Chairman, Alzheimer's Disease Society, Department of Care for the Elderly, Frenchay Hospital, Bristol.

The article about senile dementia is a very useful addition to the increasing publicity now being given to the problems of dementia. As many of your readers will be aware, the commonest cause of dementia at any age is Alzheimer's disease, named after the German neurologist who originally described it. Your article correctly stresses the shortage of resources for assisting the relatives and other carers of those suffering with this devastating condition. The Alzheimer's Disease Society, a national charity with eight regional offices in Britain and local 100 groups in many cities, was established to assist these carers. The address of our central office is 3rd Floor, Bank Buildings, Fulham Broadway, London SW6 1EP (01-381 3177).

When home embroidery is far more stimulating than men...

Being anti-social is the current social disease. Reclusiveness is in, conviviality is out and the sad little witness to this new preference for a hermetically sealed life are the rows of vivid party dresses on the winter sale rails, drooping by their diamante shoulder-straps, sadly unwanted.

"I never go out," an actress friend told me recently in the same apologetic but rather virtuous voice I am apt to use myself when explaining that I neither drink or smoke. Her work and her children were, it seemed, enough to 'keep her occupied and fulfilled. Why go to all the bother of fixing up babysitters, putting on make-up and driving off somewhere to indulge in meaningless chitchat?

She has been warned that this unsociable attitude will stand in the way of what is known as "meeting someone" but she regards this as a bonus. Once, long ago, she used to gad about relentlessly and "meeting someone" was never a problem.

Two of the shortcomings she met became successive, unsatisfactory husbands. After two divorces "meeting someone" has lost its allure and she prefers to spend her spare evenings expertly embroidering. Men may come and men may go, she reasons, but a beautifully-worked piece of Trapunto goes on forever.

Sir Roy Strong, writing in this newspaper, explained the new home-based attitudes in terms of the socio-political atmosphere. When the outside world is threatening and depressing, how inviting, he suggested, to retreat inside the comfort of your own four walls, especially when for a modest outlay they can be covered in one of Laura Ashley's flower-sprigged papers. The cult of the interior - all that stupping and sponging of paintwork, all that festooning of



PENNY PERRICK

pelmet and stripping of Welsh dressers - is, indeed, a sign of these private and isolated times. More important to the loss of social life is the disappearance of its fixers and arrangers: women without careers who can devote their time to partygoing and partygiving. Bianca Jagger is possibly the last of that breed who, after an evening flitting from public function to private dinner party, will round up a group to go on somewhere to dance at three in the morning. But then, she has the where-withal to sleep until noon the next day.

The rest of us, up at six to feed the baby, write the novel or learn the script before the day's work proper begins, start having seductive dreams of bedtime soon after sunset. "If only," said a woman sitting opposite me at dinner and sympathetically watching me stifle yawns of exhaustion, "we could put everyone on hold for 20 years. Tell them we love them dearly but we were half-killed with

overwork and could we arrange to see them when we were more relaxed, say sometime around the turn of the century."

We can't, of course. If we want a life beyond our own living-room we have to struggle through with it now, however inviting it is to stay put with an old movie on the video recorder. Better to keep in touch with the world tiredly than not at all. Or risk ending up old and alone with nothing but the Laura Ashley wallpaper to talk to.

Mr Peter King, General Secretary of the Society of Chemical Industry, has spoken disparagingly of organic farming, insisting that its appeal will be limited to "the sucker market in Hampstead but not a lot more."

Having lived in Hampstead as a child, I know what he means. The sucker market there is composed of people who make their own yoghurt, send off for kits that enable them to eat Icelandic sweaters and rip out perfectly-efficient central heating systems which they replace with magnificent-looking but ineffectual Victorian wood-burning stoves.

Their bread is always damp, lumpy and homemade while their pottery is merely lumpy and brought back from somewhere far-flung like Burma. They won't go to a movie unless it is in black and white and very flickery. They cause great offence by looking at your new Jean Muir steeled coat and saying, "What a beautiful garment! did you make it yourself?" Their escapist fantasy is to keep goats.

Mr King, however, shall not dismiss Hampstead folk lightly. Anyone with memories of Hampstead will tell him all the funny, folksy little ways that the sucker market adopts today, the rest of us will almost certainly take up tomorrow.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Speaking volumes

Two hundred distinguished guests, former ministers and prime ministers among them, will gather in London's Ironmongers Hall on February 20 to celebrate the publication of Viscount Tony's memoirs. I only hope the former Speaker - then George Thomas - will be able to join them. Lord Tony, who completed treatment for throat cancer in October, opened a Cardiff sub-post office last week, speaking for 45 minutes. He later experienced acute throat pains, and summoned his doctor, who "read him the riot act" and ordered him to cancel all engagements until May. Whether he obeys remains to be seen. Century, the publishers, have lined up several interviews and signing sessions that he wants to fulfil. He is particularly determined to attend both the launch party and a Foyles lunch in his honour to be chaired by Lord Wilson. Much will depend, no doubt, on how he feels on the day. His health, says a friend, "goes up and down like a yo-yo."

Torpedoed

The present Speaker, Bernard Weatherill, has quashed any debate in the Commons on the forthcoming Copyright Bill. British Shipbuilders' copyright trial. Last week I disclosed that the Government is applying to hold part of the trial in camera in what Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton suspects is a ploy to save top MOD ministers and officials from a potential scandal over ship procurement procedure. After raising the matter in the Commons, Labour MP Tam Dalyell has received a letter from the Speaker ruling that the matter is *sub judice*. His decision seems bound to arouse controversy, and it follows Tony Benn's accusation last Tuesday that the Speaker had made a "political" judgment by refusing to hold a debate on the miners' strike while talks were in progress.

● A young Dorset lad has no worries about the future. He has just hooked a table for eight at the Ritz for New Year's Eve, 1999.

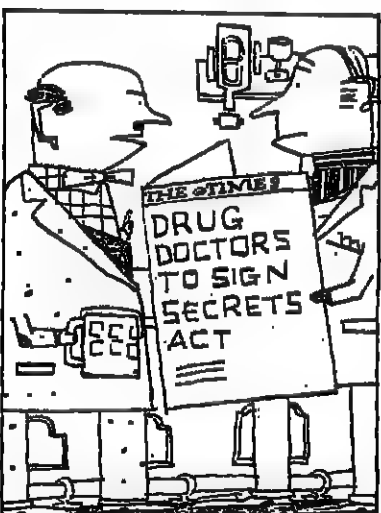
Final gambit?

Speculation about the health of President Chernenko was further fuelled at the weekend when the interminable chess championship between Kasparov and Karpov was moved from the Hall of Columns near Moscow's Red Square to a suburban hotel. "We're fed up with them," explained a spokeswoman. There could be another reason: the Hall of Columns is traditionally used for the lying-in-state of Soviet leaders.

Saucerers

Should Lord Gowrie, the Arts Minister, win the £5,000 Observer/Ronald Duncan Foundation poetry competition, he is suspiciously it may well be a put-up job. The "Martian" school of poets - Christopher Reid, Martin Amis *et al* - are hatching a plot to submit a spoof of the Earl's "lyrical-confessional" verse in his name. Should the pastiche win, only one person would be more embarrassed than Lord Gowrie, Craig Raine, Marjorie Leitch, who has no part in the joke. Is one of the judges.

BARRY FANTONI



"It won't matter - nobody can ever read their writing"

Nott the news

Comrade Haw Haw is at it again. After the 10am news bulletin on Friday, north Notts listeners to Radio Sheffield heard a snatch of Beethoven's Fifth and then a long harangue against Notts miners' breakaway leaders. The authorities are investigating how the pirates broke into the VHF frequency. Another mystery is why the voice of "responsible" Notts strikers varied between broad Yorkshire and liling Welsh.

Ghote writer

"Evelyn Horvay is the pseudonym of a well-known novelist," announces Weidenfeld on the cover of *The Man of Gold*, the second in a series of down-market Victorian suspense novels out this week. As the publisher is so provocative, I have no compunction in revealing the writer's identity. It is H. R. Keating, creator of the much classier Inspector Ghote detective novels. "I wanted to see what the reviewers made of it if they didn't know it was me. The answer is that a lot ignored it," an amused Keating told me yesterday. He was sorry to have been rumbled: he had wanted to beat C. Day Lewis, who managed three Nicholas Blake novels before he was unmasked.

PHS

Cut the guillotine down to size

by Jack Straw

It is almost certain that the Government will this week guillotine the Bill to abolish the GLC and metropolitan councils, with three-quarters of it still undiscussed. Ministers will have "got their Bill" - in the Commons at least, although what their manner of getting it will do for them in the Lords remains to be seen.

Two major issues arise, the first the use of the guillotine and other procedural devices to force through the Bill. Lord Hailsham's haunting spectre of "elective dictatorship" is turning into reality. No government has used its numerical supremacy more often, or more ruthlessly, to restrict and curtail debate than this one. More Bills (14) have been guillotined in Standing Committees in the five years of the Thatcher government than in the preceding 20 years. The present government also holds the record in terms of total guillotine motions - 15.

As a reason for this, some would point to the sheer volume of legislation - an average of 1,552 pages for the years 1980-84 compared with 1,436 pages, including those covering report stages only, during the years 1974-78 when Labour was in power. In fact, this Government has passed fewer Bills than either the Heath or the first Wilson

governments, both of which used the guillotine far less.

A better explanation lies in the highly controversial nature of much of the Thatcher programme - and in Labour's effectiveness in committee, where there has rarely been criticism of its performance and often a good deal of praise.

Above all, we have faced so many guillotine motions because the Government has brought forward much ill-thought-out legislation which it has sought to beat through the Commons without change, "brandishing the theory of the detailed mandate in the face of reasoned argument" to quote the words of Conservative MP William Waldegrave, now junior environment minister.

The second issue is whether the committee stages of Bills could be better organized to avoid the horrible farce of all-night sittings, and to give opposing parties a more effective say, without undermining the final will of the majority of the House. The small hours of the morning are not the best time to debate important legislation. Patrick Jenkin's single most important speech on

the operation of the Rates Bill, for example, took place last Valentine's Day in an all-night session which finished at 6.59 am.

Guillotining Bills under the present procedure, as soon as they are introduced, is not the answer, since that would be to load the dice even more heavily in the Government's favour. The general objection to any reform - that the present system gives an Opposition a "power of delay" to cause the Government to consider making concessions (para 2.34 of the 1978 Select Committee on Procedure) is founded in myth and not reality.

The scrutiny of Bills would very probably be enhanced - and the balance swung back in favour of Parliament - if timetabling was regulated not by the Government but by a House committee under the Speaker's direction, with the opportunity to obtain more time at the committee stage if major and unexpected questions arose.

The Clerk of the House has commented in his evidence to the latest Select Committee on Procedure that the present "purely mechanistic approach to proceedings (in committee) is in danger of bringing the House and its standing committees into disrepute." He is right.

The author is Labour MP for Blackburn.

Mark Malloch Brown suggests a new approach to famine relief

Let Africa nourish its own roots

Charity has its dangerous edge. Nobody could do enough to help Ethiopia's famine victims. But when hunger and dependence seem to stretch on endlessly - Ethiopia's next big harvest is not until November - concern can easily become impatience, coated with irritation. The Americans have a phrase for it: "compassion fatigue".

The pattern of public support for relief operations is depressingly familiar. It starts high and falls away as the recipients fail to get better with a "quick fix" and some new issue intervenes to catch our attention. Perhaps the real victims of Britain's recent freeze will be hungry Ethiopians. What Ethiopia and 20 other African countries need is long, patient support while they rebuild their farms. Desperate now, their plight would soon be worse than when the West first dipped into its pocket.

The voluntary agencies have come a long way in recent years in recognizing the sort of help which is really useful to developing countries. But, with a few exceptions, they have hardly progressed in their relations with their own donor publics. They still think we are moved only by the sight of a starving baby and don't want to know about the political complexities (such as the fact that Ethiopia is in the midst of a civil war that both sides take more seriously than famine relief) or about those Africans bursting to get their economies going again if only they could get a little start-up finance.

With the best will in the world, can people in the West be expected to go on supporting programmes which hardly see beyond the next grain convoy? Recognizing this, governments in both the donor and African countries are falling back on the old stand-by, always resorted to when they can think of nothing more constructive, of convening conferences and drafting declarations about future strategy. This is hardly likely to electrify would-be donors. Nor, on past record, are governments and inter-governmental organizations necessarily best placed to give leadership. It is their vast, over-ambitious schemes that have got Africa into much of its present trouble.

It is people, not governments, who are bearing the brunt of the famine and it is individual people in the West who are helping them. The best bridges between these two groups are the voluntary agencies. At their best they provide an open and cost-effective way of helping. At the same time if they choose to - most regrettably, still leave their supporters in complacent ignorance of the real problems - they could build enlightened but realistic long-term support for Africa.



Now is their moment. Voluntary agencies in Europe have raised a staggering £100m for African famine relief in recent months. Bob Geldof, the pop star cum aid impresario, says that with an American version of his Bandaid record in the works, he will raise a total of \$100 million.

More important than the money is the engagement of sympathy, which needs to be channelled into support for long-term development before it dissolves. One agency has borrowed a Vietnamese proverb to make the point: give a man a fish and you give him a meal; give a man a net and he will never be hungry again. The voluntary agencies need to go on the offensive, both here and in Africa, as the advocates of small scale agricultural and indeed urban, projects that will let Africans put themselves back on their feet.

If the agencies listen to those they mean to help they will come up with a rich variety of schemes reflecting Africa's political, economic and cultural diversity. International conferences and television, on the other hand, have one simplistic explanation for its problems.

Suddenly small has become beautiful. For the professional generalizers, salvation now lies in building a continent of rugged peasant farmers, free of government interference, with plenty of incentives to grow and sell as much as they can. This solution satisfies the aid lobby's liberals, who always worry that not enough attention is paid to the small farmer, and also pleases the right, who are able to think of the peasant as the quintessential African capitalist. African governments like it too, as

peasant farmers are supposed to be self-sufficient and do not have the greater needs of large-scale farmers.

But the voluntary agencies, who discovered that small was beautiful when governments, the UN and the World Bank still thought it was a nuisance, should not let governments steal their thunder. They should resist it as diversity is beautiful. The peasant certainly is key to recovery, but this tired sloganizing skims over Africa's variety. There are large farms which do work: there are nomads who have no wish to be peasants.

Also, some of the best-run parts of Africa are ignored by inter-governmental agencies. The rebel movements controlling the "liberated" areas of southern Angola and northern Ethiopia are still close to the people they serve. The kiss of death for many African political movements has been to lose touch once they gain power. Yet the rebel groups are largely ignored by all but voluntary agencies.

An exciting lesson of contemporary Africa is that, despite drought, when Africans want something enough they make it work: peasant plot or large estate, brewery and black market in Japanese transistors, Islam and the Christian churches. What is crucial is that it fits with local aspirations. What does least well is official Africa. Too many governments are so distant from their people that they were the last to wake up to the threat of famine. Yet they are the ones through which the Western governments channel their aid.

Voluntary agencies can give only a fraction of the funds provided by governments, but they have the asset of an ear closer to the ground. They can pick winners. Increasingly the big governmental agencies use their money to put in more foreign experts to prop up institutions that Africans are not particularly interested in. These people, and there are tens of thousands of them, with their families and expatriate housing allowances, swallow ever larger chunks of the assistance available to Africa.

Voluntary agencies can avoid this trap and spend their money, not on prejudging what is right for a particular corner of the continent, but on gambling on Africans with good ideas who need help to get going. Because most of the agencies are relatively small, they do not aspire to an overview of the African continent, and which they can explain to the backers at home. They are the limit of their ambition. Africa would benefit if all foreigners showed that humility.

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Why the left flinches from Field

Frank Field has posed a terrible dilemma for the people on his constituency general management committee in Birkenhead on Merseyside - apparently a majority who would rather have someone else as representative in Parliament.

In what seemed an outrageous move at the time Field announced to the world in June that if he was ousted in the new reselection round he would resign and fight a by-election against the "official" Labour candidate. The declaration was greeted as the last gasps of a drowning man, by his opponents, but it remains his intention to carry out the threat if necessary.

Field is undoubtedly out of tune with many in his local party. A Militant Tendency grouping of up to 35 delegates to the general management committee, another non-Militant but broad left strand of 25 or more and a few assorted leftist members such as the International Marxist Group easily outnumber the 40 or so Field loyalists.

Field's opposition to the occupation of a gas rig at Birkenhead's Cammell Laird shipyard last year and his decision to join Conservative MPs from the Wirral lobbying for shipyard work was heresy for the purists; his public advocacy of a "Rainbow Circle" anti-Thatcher pact which would involve deals with the Alliance was too much even for his friends.

But with the reselection timetable due to be set in Birkenhead this month, no one has yet declared against Field. This reticence, not evident in the other Merseyside seats where sitting Labour MPs are threatened with removal - Knowsley North (Robert Kilroy-Silk), St Helens North (John Evans)

and St Helens South (Gerry Bermingham) - is surprising.

There is plenty of time for a challenger to emerge, but whether it will be one well suited to ditching Field is now in question. Extraordinary manoeuvring has been going on to agree on a candidate, but no one has picked up Field's gauntlet. The fear of a by-election is a mighty deterrent, because Field would almost certainly win it.

Tony Mulhearn, the ubiquitous Militant president of Liverpool District Labour Party, has long been spoken of as the most likely left challenger to Field, but the word last week was that Militant did not relish the prospect of a head-to-head contest with Field in the special circumstances of a by-election, with the "media circus" in town.

A move has been made to draft Keva Coombes, leader of Merseyside County Council and one of the leading figures on the non-Militant Merseyside left, but the indications are that it has not succeeded. Another possibility, Andrew Davies, full-time officer of the General and Municipal Boilermakers' and Allied Trades Union, seems far more likely to be in the frame at St Helens South.

In the eyes of the left Field cannot be allowed to get away with blatant political blackmail - a description of his tactics also used, not with total approval, by his friends. But if his action could be termed maverick it certainly was not reckless. Field knows of his own popularity in Birkenhead, which is considerably enhanced even further recently with the announcement of the £140m order for a Type 22 frigate at Cammell Lairds, which has



Field: probable victor in a by-election clash

been seen on Merseyside as a victory for the moderates who went back to work and the all-party lobby.

It fully vindicated the people who backed Field as Labour candidate in 1979 in the belief that Birkenhead needed an effective lobbyist. Field's style in the face of the reselection threat is in sharp contrast to almost all other Labour MPs in a similar position. (Most of them say little about their difficulties; some, like Mark Hughes, in Durham, have announced they are going without a fight). But his tactics cannot be endorsed by the party leadership. They have opened up the horrible prospect of a by-election in which Neil Kinnock and his colleagues will have to campaign for the official candidate, who might be a member of Militant, against Field.

Field's position is that he expects to be reselected. But if he is not, and stands against the official Labour candidate, he will be expelled. If he wins the by-election he does not see

how Labour can refuse to take him back.

He said last week: "If I was successful it would offer the Labour Party a chance to lance this dreadful boil where everybody is leapingfrog left over everybody else for fear of being called a non-socialist, and which takes us further and further away from the voters."

If the party refused to accept the decision of the electorate, voters would be forced to back up their own conclusions about how serious it is about winning their support.

Labour-watchers on Merseyside believe that the battle royal will be in St Helens North. The differences between John Evans, frontbencher spokesman on employment, and his constituency party were most dramatically exposed at last year's annual Labour conference.

It remains to be seen if the unorthodox but bold tactics of Frank Field are adopted by any of his colleagues. Some of them admire what he is doing but know they cannot get away with it because their constituents' loyalty is not so strong.

Two of his GMC opponents declared in *Merseyside Labour Briefing* last July that the time had come for the party to say: "We cannot fight the Tories while our own MP holds a gun to our heads."

Field has at least determined that if the way between him and his Birkenhead party is indeed to be paved the people who put him in Parliament in 1979, and again in 1983, will have their say on the matter.

Philip Webster

Anne Sofer

A silence that tells the whole story

On the front page of *Tribune* this week in bold type, is a message worth reprinting in full: "We apologise to readers for the non-appearance in this issue of the interview with John Cunningham, Labour's front-bench spokesman on the Environment, which was announced last week. Dr Cunningham's office cancelled the interview on Monday at six hours' notice, pleading that pressure of work made it impossible to fit in an interview. It had been re-arranged twice previously. We hope to carry out an interview with Dr Cunningham, on abolition and rate-capping issues, in the near future."

What this means is that left and right are not talking - are not reconcilable - on the biggest issue of the day facing the Labour Party now that the miners' strike is nearing a miserable end. It is a coded message, of course, like Neil Kinnock's message to the Labour Party last conference at the weekend. Kinnock did not say "For God's sake, comrades, stop this nonsense about breaking the law". Instead, the words came like some semi-opaque pearl of wisdom from an oriental sage trapped in a totalitarian prison camp: "Better a dented shield than no shield at all." But they knew what he meant, and came straight back: "The Rates Act and rate-capping are anti-democratic and cruel measures, and we must continue to attack them and promise to repeal them. But don't, whatever you do, make them any worse. If the law forces you to make priorities, make them on socialist principles: protect the weakest and poorest first. If something has to be sacrificed, let it be the bureaucratic layers and the public relations 'razzmatazz' before real services. And, for heaven's sake, don't go in for any 'collusive' 'all-party industrial action' with militants in the public sector unions. Nothing could do us more harm with the electorate."

Oh, no, said a Labour councillor present, with some alarm: that wasn't the idea at all. We should spend all the money we could as quickly as possible, because what the council wanted was for everybody to go broke together. Maximum chaos was the aim.

What we could do, however, he suggested, was to raise a loan from the bank to tide us over. The council guaranteed that, once it had won its battle with central government, it would reimburse us the interest on the loan. When I pointed out that such a payment would almost certainly be illegal, he said, gravely, that yes he was prepared for that.

I think he probably is, but what he and others like him seem not to realize is that such heroism will not avail anybody anything. It may be a bankrupt individual councillor, but it will not raise more money than the council is legally allowed to raise.

The "chaos" scenario carries political risks for the Labour Party that are clearly giving Neil Kinnock nightmares. (It is giving me nightmares too, though not on political grounds; merely as an ILEA parent). What, all these "caring" local politicians, deliberately causing to grind to a halt the home-help

service, the meals on wheels, the dustbins emptying and street-cleaning, the day nurseries and old peoples' day centres, the urgent repairs on council estates and the teaching of handicapped children? They must be mad as well as callous. The public will approve of it as much as they approved of violent picketing.



Cunningham: stay away strategy

And that, I am fairly sure, is what John Cunningham would have wanted to say to *Tribune*. He might have gone on to say something like this: "The Rates Act and rate-capping are anti-democratic and cruel measures, and we must continue to attack them and promise to repeal them. But don't, whatever you do, make them any worse. If the law forces you to make priorities, make them on socialist principles: protect the weakest and poorest first. If something has to be sacrificed, let it be the bureaucratic layers and the public relations 'razzmatazz' before real services. And, for heaven's sake, don't go in for any 'collusive' 'all-party industrial action' with militants in the public sector unions. Nothing could do us more harm with the electorate."

But of course, he would have to wrap it up very much more carefully than that, just as the current *Tribune* front page article, by David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield council, is wrapped up. I have read it four times, and am still not sure what it is saying. It condemns equally "people looking over their shoulders to see who is a better socialist" (I take it that means the hard-left) and "those who constantly preach about the value of law rather than the value of democracy" (that must be the moderates). It says that "councillors are going to need 'courage' and 'determination' and they also go on to need the understanding, comradeship and political maturity of the party as a whole, both in Parliament and at branch and constituency levels."

You can say that again, David. I would say it if I were a Labour councillor. But what exactly are we to do? The article on that point is silent.

"Leadership by previous engagement," David Steel called it when Neil Kinnock failed to attend the picket rallies. "Strategy by cancelled interview" is the parallel description for John Cunningham's behaviour.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

John O'Sullivan

Homily grits and born-again flakes

Washington "I like Eugene Charlie Wilson," someone said of Eisenhower's treasury secretary. "He is the only member of this administration who doesn't talk to me about God." It is this persuasive religious spirit, to be found even in so profane a business as politics, that explains an event like last Thursday's national prayer breakfast in Washington.

It was not a ceremonial religious occasion, like a coronation or a service of thanksgiving. It was an opportunity for 3,000 Americans, including the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of State, a Supreme Court judge, the Governor of California, the army Chief of Staff and assorted senators and congressmen to get up and talk about God in a thoroughly unembarrassed manner.

They did so in the international ballroom of the Washington Hilton. They wore lapel badges announcing their name and religion. They greeted strange like old friends. With the sound turned down, it might have been just another Midwest business convention.

It was, then, a very American occasion. Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, observing it agonistically for the *Irish Times*, regretted the Chief of Staff's prayer for greater military expenditure. But we agreed that Reagan's homily had been a model of simple, unpolitical religious feeling.

He gave a short history of the prayer breakfast movement. It began in the Senate in 1942 and remained unpublished until the 1950s when President Eisenhower heard of it and asked to be included. It then spread gradually throughout America.

The movement is not the property of any one denomination. But it is evangelical in tone and its rise is clearly linked to the growing popularity of the evangelical Christian movement - a response to the thin spiritual gruel offered by the "mainline" Christian churches which in recent years have stressed the gospel of social action and neglected the traditional message of salvation.

A recent case in point is the first draft of the Catholic bishops' letter on the US economy. They laid down, first, the moral principles that should guide Christians in economic matters - including, notably, that

there should be a preferential, but not exclusive, "option for the poor". Few Christians would disagree with them on these fundamentals. But still fewer would find anything very novel about them either.

The bishops went on, however, to make criticisms and suggest some very specific economic policies which involved technical economic judgments as well as theological insights. These were generally leftish.

Admittedly, the authors of the letter distinguish very sharply between these two sets of injunctions. The moral proposals are binding upon Catholic consciences. But the bishops speak with no particular authority on whether monetarism or Keynesianism is the more likely to reduce long-term unemployment. So the well-instructed conscience is free to differ with them on policy recommendations.

No, they were taking sides in a purely secular struggle between left and right and lending spiritual authority to the agenda of liberal Democrats. And naturally enough, this emphasis on secular solutions such as increased taxes and welfare tends to work against purely spiritual considerations. If we think that the Christian solution is to tax the rich more, we will appeal to their consciences less.

There is a further paradox here. It is the claim of liberal Catholics that Vatican II initiated a period in which authority would be distributed outwards from Pope to bishops and from bishops to the laity. This surely implies that the bishops should exercise some restraint in offering strong advice on secular matters where their authority is slight or non-existent.

Religious liberalism is thus in conflict with secular liberalism. Exercises such as the bishops' letter represent a reactionary tendency in Christian thought and practice - an attempt to cow political dissenters with crozier.

They also prompt Catholics to join other American Christians in seeking alternative forums, such as the prayer breakfast, to express their spiritual fellowship which used to serve as a retreat from the discussions of politics but which politics now threatens to absorb.



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FORTY DIVIDED YEARS

Forty years ago today the leaders of the Soviet Union, the United States and the United Kingdom met at Yalta in the Crimea to discuss the future of Europe. For tens of millions of people in Central and Eastern Europe, "Yalta" is the defining symbol of their bondage. "Yalta" means the tool of all their present political evils. "Yalta" means the West, increasingly, people in the West from widely differing political positions, are coming to share this view of "Yalta" as the root cause of Europe's present ills.

Yet we should first be clear what we mean by "Yalta". Historically, it is not true that Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin "carved up" Europe over dinner, there and then, giving each other *carte blanche* in their respective halves of the divided continent. At least, that is not what Churchill and Roosevelt thought they were doing at the time. The concluding communiqué of the Crimean Conference is replete with fair promises of self-determination for the peoples of Liberated Europe. So "Yalta" is not the promises made at Yalta. "Yalta" means the way Stalin broke those promises, ruthlessly imposing the Soviet system, by force and fraud, upon the historic nations of Central Europe. That is what divided Europe and divides it still.

History's justified charge against Roosevelt and Churchill is that they built a policy on Stalin's promises, as Chamberlain had built a policy on those of Hitler. Churchill himself subsequently made the comparison, foreseeing that the British Government might "lay themselves open to the charge of having followed the Munich pattern and imposed, for the sake of our relations with the Soviet government, on an unwilling Polish people a settlement agreed upon in advance among the Great Powers". And writing to Roosevelt just a month after the Crimean Conference he expressed the fear that "you and I by putting our signatures to the Crimean settlement have underwritten a fraudulent prospectus". A fraudulent prospectus: forty years on that seems a perfect description of the Yalta agreements.

So the Western powers' policy towards Eastern Europe in 1945 was both morally and politically wrong. Morally, because we abandoned the country for whose independence we originally declared war to a terrible dependence on Stalin - the man who had been responsible for partitioning Poland, with Hitler, in 1939. Politically, because the price paid (by other people) did not buy the intended good: a lasting, constructive, peaceful relationship with the Soviet Union.

"Realists" rejected these charges at the time - and have done so since - by observing that Soviet armies were already in physical possession of most of Eastern Europe. The West faced a fait accompli. What else could we have done? But the most senior Soviet diplomat ever to defect to the West argues that Western diplomacy could have done a great deal to prevent the establishment and consolidation of communist regimes in Eastern Europe. Despite the advantage of military occupation, the Soviet Union was economically exhausted and politically weak. Western leaders did not seriously attempt to use the military, political and economic instruments at their disposal for this purpose. Instead, they pretended to the world, to their own electorates, and to themselves, that Stalin meant the same thing as we do by terms like democracy, sovereignty, independence, representative government, and free and unfettered elections. Their underlying thinking was, as Sir Frank Roberts has re-

called, "if you could only treat Stalin like a member of the club he will behave possibly one day like a member of the club". Such were then the illusions of the "realists".

Today their counterparts tell us that the post-Yalta division of Europe is a permanent necessity. "Enforced stability" in Poland is necessary for the peace of Europe. The Poles, and Czechs and Hungarians, must sacrifice their liberal, democratic or pluralistic aspirations to the higher cause of peace. But, once again, it is the "realists" who are unrealistic.

For if the history of Eastern Europe since Yalta has taught us one lesson it is this: that region will never be truly stable or at peace so long as its Soviet-imposed and Soviet-type governments continue to ignore the aspirations of their peoples. In the long run, only a greater degree of pluralism and self-determination can ensure internal stability and external peace (with Eastern and Western neighbours) for the countries of Eastern and Central Europe.

So it is not merely out of solidarity with the oppressed peoples of Central and Eastern Europe, not just because they share many of the values we profess, but from a realistic assessment of the long-term requirements for peace and stability in Europe, that the policy of the West must be directed towards the ultimate goal of overcoming "Yalta" - meaning the division of Europe caused by the imposition of the alien Soviet system on half of it. But how?

The possibilities for Western policy towards Eastern Europe are today both more limited and greater than they were in 1945. They are drastically limited by the new character of Soviet military domination, with its nuclear "umbrella". They are increased by the failure of the Soviet system in every field except the military. In the real world, there is no simple magic formula for overcoming "Yalta" with one wave of the disarmament wand. But there are large opportunities for patient, consistent, active diplomacy, both towards Eastern Europe and towards the Soviet Union.

With Eastern Europe, most Western governments now pursue a broad policy of "differentiation", but there is no clear consensus about the right criteria for it. Obviously, it is in our interest to encourage any signs of independence from Moscow in foreign policy, as manifested most dramatically by the Romanian government. But it is an illusion to imagine that the foreign policy wishes of East European governments will be a major factor in Moscow's calculations - particularly on the crucial issues of East-West relations, such as arms control. It is in our interest to encourage the "Westward" leaning and development of East European economies, as in the case of Hungary. But Western policy-makers should also appreciate that we have a long-term interest in a development which the rulers of Eastern Europe certainly do not want: the gradual, evolutionary widening of the areas of pluralism and self-determination for the peoples of Eastern Europe, which means, necessarily, curbing the powers of the communist ruling class. So "differentiation" cannot simply be a matter of encouraging "reform-minded" communist rulers. There must also be encouragement for the ruled. The Foreign Secretary should keep this aspect of "differentiation" firmly in mind, as he tours the countries of Eastern Europe over the next two months.

Towards the Soviet Union itself, the Western policy consensus is even less clear. The fortieth anniversary of the Yalta agreement will soon be followed by the tenth anniversary of the

Helsinki agreement. For some leading opposition figures in Eastern Europe, Helsinki merely cemented the damage done at Yalta. But for others, Helsinki was part of the process of overcoming "Yalta". Many of the main initiatives of human and civil rights activists in Eastern Europe over the last decade have referred to or been based upon the terms of the Helsinki "Final Act".

To be sure, the Soviet Union claims that at Helsinki the West recognised the legitimacy of its imperial domination over Eastern Europe, and solemnly acknowledged the western frontier of its empire. But that is not what was agreed in Helsinki. The West there recognised the inviolability of the frontiers and the territorial integrity of states which had their origins in the agreement between Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin. Now, we will not pretend that the frontiers agreed upon in 1945 were outstandingly natural or just. Frontiers rarely are. We will not claim that the massive and brutal deportations of whole ethnic groups - Germans and others - which accompanied these changes were a glorious page of European history. They were terrible. But forty years later, the peoples of Central Europe are firmly established inside these frontiers, and it does seem foolish and wrong (and a gift to Soviet propaganda) for leading West German politicians to talk so persistently about the German Reich in the frontiers of 1937. There is a real sense in which the German Question is indeed still "open": but the frontier questions should be regarded as closed. If, as we sincerely hope, forty years hence all the Germans will be able to govern themselves as they please, we also hope that they will do so within the frontiers of 1945. (Which does not, of course, mean accepting as permanent the division of Germany into two states - not envisaged in 1945 by any of the participants in the Crimean Conference.) That is equally our hope for the Poles.

At Helsinki the West formally undertook not to do what in practice it had long been clear it would not do: to intervene militarily across these frontiers. But it simultaneously acquired the formal right to intervene publicly and diplomatically across them on a wide range of issues concerning the freedoms and rights of East European peoples, and contacts between East and West. Of course the Soviet Union has broken most of its solemn promises (although some East European states have found it expedient to keep some of them, some of the time). But in Madrid the West was able to expose those breaches of promise, in a detailed, explicit and protracted fashion - and this has not been to the credit or advantage of the Soviet Union in the international community.

It is not the mere fact of treating with the Russians which is dangerous: it is the illusions which have repeatedly arisen from such treating - from Yalta to Helsinki. In Western democracies, these illusions are of two kinds: the illusions of political leaders themselves, and those of the public which elects those leaders. In his memoirs, Churchill quotes an embarrassing encomium to Soviet leaders ("their word is their bond") which he himself made while reporting to Parliament on the Crimean Conference. And he defensively comments: "I felt bound to proclaim my confidence in Soviet good faith in the hope of procuring it." To this vain hope Western leaders even now succumb. Such a pretence is dangerous, because it tends to spread the confidence while not securing the good faith. After forty years, we should know better than to repeat that mistake. But with plain speaking, and without illusions, the "Helsinki process" may yet be part of overcoming "Yalta", rather than cementing it. And that must be our ultimate goal.

number of years in the latter part of the eighteenth century and he was struck by the fact that good health had apparently been maintained on a calorie intake that nowadays is regarded as quite inadequate that he and his wife put themselves on a minimum diet, based largely on Rumsford's special soup and providing 1,300 calories daily, for a period of a month, during which time they made careful measurements of their various bodily functions, including their basal metabolic rates and reaction times.

They survived this trial in good health and the work was described in a paper to the British Association in September 1936, subsequently published in the *Lancet* of December 26, 1936.

All this is a long time ago and it is now perhaps of some interest to recall the investigation.

Yours faithfully,
H.E. BECKETT,
Conwy House,
16 Warren Road,
Deganwy,
Gwynedd.

Abuses if Ballot Act is repealed

From Mr George Cunningham

Sir, The House of Commons has approved the principle that voters who are away from home on polling day should not lose their right to vote. But if the Representation of the People Bill is passed in its present form it will effectively repeal the Ballot Act and open the way for the purchase of votes in return for monetary and political favours.

The beauty of the Ballot Act is not that it lets you keep your vote secret, but that it stops you from being able to prove how you have voted even if you want to. No one pays a bribe unless he knows you have delivered your part of the deal. But postal votes escape the rule.

A postal voter can show his marked ballot to a party worker and even give it to him to post. This does not matter so long as only a few people can vote by post on very restricted grounds. The new Bill means anyone can vote by post by asserting that he thinks he will be away from home on the day.

The Government knows this is open to uncontrollable abuse. That is why they propose not to apply the change in Northern Ireland, where electoral cheating is common. But it was common in Britain, too, before the Ballot Act.

Holidaymakers can be allowed to vote without giving up the secret ballot. We can adopt the Canadian practice of advance voting. A few advance polling stations are opened in each constituency for 10 days or so before normal polling day. Those who have not yet left home vote before they go.

Those who are already absent but still in the United Kingdom can vote at advance polling stations wherever they are and have their votes passed on to their parent constituency to be counted with the others on election night. Postal votes can then be restricted to those physically unable to reach a polling station.

We would probably have to extend the period between close of nominations and polling day: is that not better than repealing the Ballot Act?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CUNNINGHAM,
28 Manor Gardens,
Hampden,
Middlesex,
January 24.

Bull ring circuit

From Dr A. K. Clarke

Sir, You make reference today (January 24) to the Bill aimed at getting motor racing in the streets of Birmingham. I, for one, hope that the Bill fails.

Although I am keen, as are all motor-racing enthusiasts, to give motor racing a higher profile, my belief is that racing in this country should take place on one of the dozen or so permanent tracks. These are very expensive to maintain and they require the big race to bring in revenue to keep club racing going which is the real basis of the sport. We cannot afford to cream off the major events to one-off street circuits which put little or nothing into the sport.

Monte Carlo is a street circuit for good historical reasons. Birmingham is not and its claim should fail.

Yours sincerely,
A. K. CLARKE,
Chief Medical Officer,
British Automobile Racing Club,
30 Grosvenor Place,
London Road,
Bath,
Avon,
January 26.

Mr Brown's travels

From Mr Ron Brown, MP for Edinburgh, Leith (Labour)

The Times Diary (January 24) has condemned me on two counts: for meeting Colonel Gaddafi last year and for recently visiting Afghanistan at the request of Liberation, the anti-colonialist organisation. Perhaps I should explain some basic details.

Firstly, the visit to Tripoli with Labour colleagues secured the release of two British men from detention and paved the way for direct negotiations on other cases.

Secondly, the reason for travelling to Kabul was not just to attend a conference, but more importantly to explain the British miners' cause to Afghan trade unionists - who responded generously by sending £10,000 and other aid to families facing hardship in our mining communities.

Of course, these activities may not please the Tory Party and their friends, but I think the British Labour movement will judge me differently.

Sincerely,
RON BROWN,
House of Commons,
January 25.

Bill of Rights

From Mr Paul Sieghart

Sir, If Mr Yonge (January 19) wishes to argue against a Bill of Rights for the United Kingdom, he would be wise to study the question in rather more depth, in order to avoid at least the following misconceptions: 1. A Bill of Rights would not "replace" our unwritten Constitution. Nothing can - except a written Constitution, which is something quite different from a Bill of Rights. All that a new Bill of Rights could replace would be the one which we have had on our statute book since 1688, and which is about due for overhaul after all that time.

2. Under our unwritten Constitution, all the freedoms which matter have been established by litigation.

3. Nowhere does the European Convention on Human Rights use the word "unreasonable", or the

The North needs action not promises

From the Chairman of the Business Co-ordinating Committee and others

Sir, The northern region desperately needs work. This is especially so in view of the uncertainty caused by the changes in regional industrial policy. The case for a programme of carefully selected capital expenditure for this part of the country, together with expenditure on the maintenance of existing capital assets, is urgent.

The following reasons support this view:

1. The immediate need to do something positive to arrest the continuing increase in unemployment in the northern region, and for the Government to be seen to recognise this need.
2. Industry in the north is hampered by an inadequate and out of date infrastructure. Expenditure on cost effective projects will enable us to compete more effectively which, in turn, would lead to more jobs. Also it is important to prevent deterioration of essential capital assets: if roads, sewers, etc., are not maintained, the eventual cost of restoration is enormously increased.
3. The need to give work to the local construction industry which is seriously short of orders and which must have employment to keep it together, hopefully so that it can meet demand when conditions improve.
4. Since there is inevitably a considerable period of planning involved in infrastructure projects decisions are needed now to get a programme going.

Calling abroad

From Dr A. R. Deighton

Sir, I have just made a discovery which may interest your readers as much as me.

I make regular and fairly long telephone calls to Western Germany which cost me 4.7p for one unit of 9.3 sec (7.5 sec at peak rate) + VAT. For instance, my latest call to Germany last Sunday - 22 minutes and 48 seconds - 148 units - will cost £8 including VAT.

What, I wondered, would the same call have cost if it had been dialled in Germany? The telephone exchange in Osnabrück tells me that a call to England costs 25p for a unit of 16 sec (12 sec at peak rate) and no VAT is levied on this sum.

Taking into account the 1 per cent price reduction for calls dialled

We urge the Government not to reject these arguments. We do not believe the proposed public works would be inflationary; in any case they would make minimal demands on imported materials. We also feel strongly that the Government is confusing capital and revenue expenditure, and their proposals to reduce income tax would do nothing to help unemployment in the north in the short term.

In the meantime, average unemployment in the whole of the northern region is 17.8 per cent and as much as 30 per cent in certain districts. The situation up here has reached the point when promises of better things to come sometime in the future no longer carry conviction. The need is to do something NOW.

Yours sincerely,
A. J. BEALE, Chairman,
British Institute of Management (Northumbria Branch),
RALPH ILEY, Chairman,
Confederation of British Industry (Northern Region),
R. BARKES, Chairman,
Institute of Directors (North East Branch),
R. BOWER,
Newcastle & District Chamber of Trade,
D. M. MIDDLETON, President,
Teesside & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry,
R. G. TILMOUTH, President,
Tyne & Wear Chamber of Commerce & Industry,
ROLAND A. COOKSON, Chairman,
Business Co-ordinating Committee,
c/o 65 Quayside,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

directly by the subscriber and assuming an exchange rate of DM 3.50 to £1, I estimate that my call would have cost approximately £5.50.

Another example: a 10-minute call at the standard rate from London to Essen would cost £4.32. The same call dialled in Essen would cost only £2.42.

Some of your readers, Sir, may understand why there is this great difference in price. I do not. I hope it is not generally the case that British exporters have telephone bills 70 per cent higher than their foreign competitors.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN R. DEIGHTON,
Department of German,
University of Hull,
Cottingham Road,
Hull,
January 27.

Gentlemanly players

From Mr M. B. Hedgcock

Sir, Alan Gibson's cricket essays are always a delight, but he does tend to be afflicted by what might be termed "the Cardus tendency" - a greater concern for the broad sweep than for precision. Your special bicentenary report on Australia (January 25) includes in Mr Gibson's study of England-Australia cricket this statement (referring to early Australian teams visiting England): "The Australians themselves were all professionals, though they retained the amateur symbol 'Mr' in front of their names."

Come, come, Mr Gibson. In the first three teams (of 1878, 1880 and 1882) there were three lawyers, five bank officials, seven civil servants, an estate agent, two undoubted amateurs, although their precise occupation is unclear, two whose living is uncertain (one did school coaching at one stage), and just one full-blown professional in the sense

of making his living from the game (this being Charles Bannerman). David Gregory, who captained the first team, was in the NSW Audit Office; W. L. Murdoch, who led the next two, was a lawyer. W. H. Moule (1880) became a judge; T. W. Garrett (1878-1882) the NSW Public Trustee. H. H. Massie (1882) became General Manager of the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney.

These men and their colleagues were far better entitled to the tag "amateur" than was W. G. Grace, who made far more out of cricket than ever he did in his nominal role as a general practitioner, even if they did not fit the English stereotype of "gentleman."

S. P. Jones (1882) is quoted in his *Wisden* obituary in 1952 as contrasting the modest expenses he and his colleagues received against the money paid modern cricketers.

Yours faithfully,
M. B. HEDGCOCK,
News Limited of Australia,
8 Bouverie Street, EC4,
January 28.

University cuts

From The Editor of Panorama

Sir, Lord Orr-Ewing claims (February 1) that last Monday's *Panorama*, entitled "No University for You?", was ignorant of the facts, or allowed "political motivations to distort them".

It is a fact that over the past five years the proportion of 18- and 19-year-olds going to university has been cut, that student grants have fallen in value, and that the recently published expenditure White Paper confirms that "overall funding for the universities has been reduced by 8 per cent in real terms... below its 1980 level".

In its recent advice to the Government the University Grants Committee concluded that despite its aim "to minimise the damage to the system caused by the cuts imposed by the Government... those cuts were so severe that great harm has still been done".

The funding of our universities was properly reported in *Panorama* and discussed by a panel representing a wide range of opinion. We are only sorry that the Secretary of State for Education felt unable to accept our invitation to take part.

Yours faithfully,
PETER IBBOTSON, Editor,
Panorama,
BBC TV,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Lime Grove Studios, W12.

Six-day penance

From Mr David Spier

Sir, Surely there is a fundamental fallacy in the notion that there is a genuine spiritual gain to be achieved by compliance with such artificial impositions as "No meat on Fridays" (leading article, January 26).

Human nature being what it still is, will always find ways and means of circumventing such rules, consciously or not, e.g., a good blow-out on Thursday, with Friday for recovery.

True religion cannot be reduced to "Never on Friday" and I suggest that the idea of penitential options mooted in your article should be

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 4 1829

On the morning of February 2 1829 smoke was seen issuing from the roof of York Minster. It was an act of arson perpetrated by Jonathan Martin, a religious fanatic who had spent some years in lunatic asylums. After setting fire to the choir Martin escaped, but was captured a few days later. He was tried at York Castle and found not guilty on the ground of insanity; he was confined in St Luke's Hospital, London, where he died in 1838. The damage cost more than £50,000 to repair.

DESTRUCTION OF THE INTERIOR OF YORK MINSTER

(From our Correspondent)

YORK, Feb 2
I have forwarded you a York paper, and without further preamble send you a few particulars in addition to the hasty account given of this frightful event.

Soon after the alarm was given the bells of 23 churches announced the dismal tidings; but for some time the lower orders looked upon the report as a hoax, and it was not until after the lapse of an hour that the city was fairly roused to a sense of impending calamity.

The first appearance I observed was the issue of an immense volume of smoke from the junction of the western towers with the nave, a smaller column from the great tower, and a third column from the roof of the choir, thus presenting the appearance of the building being on fire in all parts, whilst a dense smoke filled the interior to such a degree as to preclude the immediate entrance of the firemen. At length, the engines were rolled into the august edifice, when a scene beyond all description presented itself: the interior of the choir enveloped in flames, reflected upon the beautiful stained glass. The flames soon burst through the roof of the choir, and in less than an hour the whole was in a blaze, and the melted lead poured down the spouting. The roof soon fell in, in about five or six dreadful crashes. Every effort was made to prevent the flames spreading to the transept and nave, and I trust with success, for though the engines are now (midnight) still playing, I do not find that there is any other fire than the remains of the roof on the floor of the choir.

All is now still, except the men at the engines in the interior, and a few sentinels on guard over the articles brought out of the treasury. It was painful to see the little last of the lower orders took in this melancholy event; they looked on it quite as a sight, whilst on the other hand, the middle and upper classes evinced the most intense interest. Many of the neighbouring gentry have arrived this evening. Mr Thompson, of Eberich, sent his own fire-engine, drawn by his four-coach horses. The venerable Archbishop came over immediately, and, together with Archdeacon Markham and Mr Vernon, gave the necessary orders.

The damage may be summed up thus: "The roof of the choir quite gone, the wood work on each side consumed, the matchless organ entirely destroyed, many monuments broken, and the communion plate melted."

On the other hand, the east window is entire to the surprise of many, the screen is unharmed, although immediately below the organ, the records in the vestry, the horn of Ulpian, the coronation chair, and the brass eagle are saved, and the walls in the Fragments-office are all safely lodged in Salford's Church. Great credit is due to Mr. Buckle, the deputy registrar, for the promptness with which those valuable records were removed to a place of safety, although the fire did not eventually reach the Will-office.

For some time the city was in considerable danger; flakes of fire were carried as far as the Lord Mayor's Walk; hopefully there was very little wind. I do not think danger is now over.

VAT on books

From Mr Bruce Wright

Sir, You have printed many letters about the possibility of the imposition of VAT on books and newspapers.

I do not recall a single one that has not come from a person with a vested interest, mainly publishers, purveyors or pedagogues.

I have no vested interest. I see no difference in being indirectly taxed on my daily newspaper from being indirectly taxed on the petrol used to deliver my daily paper.

Nor is there any logic in the exemption of the scholar's textbook when most of the other educational accessories - pens, paper and calculators to name three - are taxed. If necessary educational budgets could be uplifted to compensate for VAT on books.

Finally, I certainly see nothing just or fair in exempting what must be the biggest fraction of book publishing, namely, books and magazines catering for pleasure and hobbies.

The bookworm - for whom free libraries are already provided - has no claim to better treatment than the man who goes to football matches or the lady who buys embroidery materials.

No Sir, it is high time that the anomaly of VAT exemption for the printed word was abolished.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE WRIGHT,
39 Lentine Way,
Lymington,
Hampshire,
January 25.

Round pounds

From Mr E. Armitage

Sir, I wonder if any thought has been given to the difficulty which the disappearance of the pound note will place on grandparents who have been in the habit of rewarding infant and juvenile accomplishments by the inclusion of a pound note in their letters of congratulation to grandchildren.

Yours faithfully,
E. ARMITAGE,
11 Cambridge Road,
Ely,
Cambridgeshire,
January 28

Cholera outbreak

From Mr Toby Jessel, MP for Trichinopoly (Conservative)

Sir, Your report on January 23 of the dreadful cholera epidemic in Ethiopian refugee camps recalls what happened in Bengal just before the Bangladesh war in 1971.

Then, 10 million refugees fled from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) into India. The frightful conditions I saw as one of a parliamentary delegation that June are etched deep in my memory. The refugees had nowhere to go. Most stayed huddled in fields and ditches without sanitation. The Indians could not suddenly house such a huge influx; inevitably cholera began to break out.

The Indian authorities acted swiftly and decisively. They issued a food ration card to each refugee if, and only if, he had first received a cholera inoculation. In that way the cholera deaths were kept down to 3,000 out of 10 million, about one person in 3,500.

Is it too much to hope that something of the kind might be done to save Ethiopian lives?

Yours faithfully,
TOBY JESSEL,
House of Commons,
January 24.

Calorie count

From Mr H. E. Beckett

Sir, The reference to "Count Rumford's Soup" in Miss Wedderburn's letter, January 17, took my mind back to the early 1930s, when I was working in the physics section of the Building Research Station, under Dr A. F. Dufton.

Officially Dufton was concerned with environmental physics, but his interests were much wider than that and he had paid close attention to the writings of Count Rumford on a variety of subjects.

This had led him to a detailed study of the low-calorie diet on which Rumford had fed more than 1,000 poor people in Bavaria for a

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Playing consequences with the pound

Considerable detective effort is needed to uncover the world's new currency arrangements for the simple reason that most of the major participants feel free to lie. A good deal of dissimulation is, as the Chancellor tells us, an essential element in the game of the major central banks. But as Mr Nigel Lawson himself conceded to the Treasury committee of MPs last week, operational uncertainty should be counterbalanced by clarity about the broad directions of policy.

And that is precisely what we lack, both nationally and internationally, with respect to exchange rates. Let us start with Mr Lawson: not because Britain is the most important player in the new game but because its Chancellor has conveniently been brought to account by that Treasury committee of MPs. Since I have in the past caused some offence by pointing to a certain lack of application by this committee, it behoves me to say that its two-hour interrogation of the Chancellor last Monday, at the height of the sterling crisis, did both sides credit. It was a notable constitutional innovation.

But, what did we learn of the Chancellor's exchange-rate policy? Naturally, that from where he sat, it had not changed. That is too much to swallow. It is true that there have been occasions when the Thatcher Government has switched its attention from domestic money numbers to the exchange rate in deciding the level of interest rates. This had usually been described as using the exchange rate to interpret "misleading" domestic monetary indicators — a handy excuse, since the money supply figures are always distorted by something or other.

But recently Mr Lawson has said rather more than he believes the exchange rate itself can impart a degree of financial tightness or looseness. This means it is not merely an auxiliary dial on the monetary dashboard, but — like interest rates themselves — a potential instrument of monetary policy.

There is, furthermore, the Government's new enthusiasm for intervention in the foreign exchange markets. Here we have had more changes than, in perhaps generally appreciated. After all, the Thatcher Government took office saying it would become a full member of the European Monetary System when the time was "ripe" — a decision which would automatically have involved the Bank of England in short-term intervention if sterling strayed outside preset limits. But as the years passed, the Treasury's periodic reviews of the EMS question became more and more a ritual of defeat for the Foreign Office and even the Bank of England's traces of enthusiasm began to fade. With the accession of Mr Lawson to the Chancellorship, the political commitment to free floating reached its peak.

Yet at precisely that moment, worries about the ever-rising dollar were shifting international pressures. It was in 1983 that the Germans wrung out of the Reagan Administration reluctant agreement to possible intervention in ill-defined circumstances of "disorderly markets". By last September's international financial meetings, the Germans were pressing harder; but the British Government was still concentrating on requests for lower interest rates. Shifting to a plea for intervention would, so officials argue, have merely let President Reagan off his budgetary hook.

What then changed was the hope that American interest rates could tumble far and fast enough to do the trick. President Reagan hemmed himself in with campaign promises, from which he can only begin to disentangle himself in this week's

Budget. And Britain joined the intervention lobby.

Well, consistency is not the sole test of policy. But governments naturally respond to those who believe it is by putting up a defensive smokescreen which does the real damage, because it tends to obscure the new position. The British Government is simultaneously engaged in this political exercise while attempting to disperse the similar smokescreen being puffed out by Washington.

The new agreement on concerted intervention is intended, so we are told by Mr Lawson and Mrs Thatcher, to demonstrate the two-way risks of currency speculation — and that this is significantly different from intervention merely to calm down "disorderly markets". Neither phrase, in truth, means much. What everybody concerned would now like to do is defeat those market operators betting on a strong dollar. Euphemisms are being employed because it is still not clear how much the Americans are prepared to do to help.

Experience so far was summed up at the weekend by the President of the Bank for International Settlements — the central bankers' bank — as something like a draw. Intervention had, he said, had some success in calming the markets; but since it had not substantially weakened the dollar, it was difficult to call it a "great success". Indeed, the week ended with a cliff-hanger. While the Bank of England kept interest rates up and sterling quiet, the Bundesbank was battling to prevent the mark falling through another psychological barrier; and American market men were saying that the Federal Reserve Board was doing little to help.

The American excuse, of course, is that concerted intervention is not intended to hold any particular rate. What does seem to have been agreed is that intervention should take place if, and only if, the dollar is strengthening against all major currencies.

That leaves both the Bundesbank and the Bank of England exposed as the markets' fancy turns against one or the other. The Bank of England has been intervening on its own, this past month; although the figures will not distinguish between concerted and independent intervention, we should get the first measure of this change of policy in this afternoon's reserves statistics.

But looking further ahead, this policy would seem to lead full circle, to where the Thatcher Government came in. For if she and her Chancellor now believe that speculation between the dollar and other currencies can be discouraged by intervention, does this not also apply to speculation which discriminates between the mark and the pound? Do not the Bundesbank and the Bank of England need the kind of agreement they have jointly pressed on the Federal Reserve?

It is dangerous to read too much intent into words of today's free-spoken Governor of the Bank of England. But he has, at the very least, reflected the views of his institution by publicly agreeing that sterling would have been less vulnerable to speculation if it had been a member of the EMS. Before the Treasury Committee, Mr Lawson, who dismissed the idea that membership would have been helpful, went on to say he was still against intervention "as a way of life". But so are members of the EMS, who use intervention only until parities can be adjusted or domestic monetary policies altered to take the heat off the exchange rate. Now whose present-day policy does that remind you of?

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

Johnson Matthey losses could cost Bank of England £30m

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The Bank of England will probably have to put up between £15 million and £30 million to meet losses at Johnson Matthey Bankers.

Price Waterhouse, the accountants, has completed the draft stage of its report on the loan book at Johnson Matthey Bankers, the bullion bank rescued from collapse by the Bank of England last year. The account is believed to have unearthed likely losses of between £200 million and £230 million.

However, the report has still to be completed and a full recommendation on the level of provisions required at JMB has yet to be made.

There are indications that £30 million to £60 million of the £150 million indemnities

being arranged to cover JMB's losses may be called initially. The Bank of England will have to put up half the sum needed and the rest will come from the group of banks and bullion dealers which was roped into the safety net.

The first £170 million of losses at JMB will be covered by the bank's capital and the indemnities come into play only after that.

Lawyers are still haggling over the wording of some aspects of the indemnity agreement between the banks and the Bank of England.

But with only one minor technical issue still in dispute the agreement is expected to be signed within the next month or so.

Price Waterhouse is expected to finish its report soon and there may be pressure from banks with March 31 year-ends to have the initial indemnity call decided in time for provisions to be included in their annual accounts.

Once the state of the loan book has been established, it will be revalued quarterly with adjustments made to the amount of indemnities which have been called as necessary.

The private sector participants in the safety net will not sign any direct agreement with JMB and the banks and bullion dealers will counter-indemnify the Bank of England for their half-share of the £150 million.

Price Waterhouse's report appears to have borne out the

Bank of England's early assessment that imprudent lending was to blame for JMB's problems, and nothing has come to light to suggest that fraud was a cause of the bank's downfall.

Loans to Mr Mahmoud Sipra's El Saeed group of companies have already been identified as one of the causes of JMB's problems. The bank was also hit by large problem loans to another undisclosed borrower.

A number of parties have expressed interest to the Bank of England in buying parts of JMB. The Bank of England plans to sell it back to the private sector eventually but not before it has been cleaned up.

M3 crucial to base rate cut

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England is set to continue its "softly-softly" approach to interest rate cuts this week. A reduction in base rates from the 14 per cent established last Monday is seen as crucially dependent upon tomorrow's money supply figures and a solid performance by the pound.

Expectations for the increase in the sterling M3 measure of money supply in banking January, to be announced tomorrow, range from 0.5 to 1.5 per cent.

A rise of up to 0.7 per cent for the month would keep M3 just within the 6 to 10 per cent official target range. Some City economists argue that, by delaying a base rate cut last week, when money market rates fell sharply, the authorities have tied their hands to the money supply figures.

However, if January's rise is above 0.7 per cent, implying annualized growth outside the target range, a base rate cut, it is argued, could be seen as inconsistent with the Government's new-found determination to peg back monetary growth.

Olivetti in Buitoni takeover

From John Earle, Rome

Signor Carlo de Benedetti of Olivetti has extended his empire from computers to chocolate and spaghetti with a lightning takeover of Industrie Buitoni Perugina (IBT), a leading Italian multi-national food group.

He snatched it from under the nose of the French Gervais-Danone group, which had been negotiating for weeks through the Milan merchant bank Mediobanca to buy the Buitoni family's controlling share.

While representatives of the French purchasers were reported waiting in Mediobanca's office on Friday, Signor Bruno Buitoni flew in a private plane to Turin to conclude the sale of the family's 53 per cent share for an undisclosed sum with CIR, the holding company through which Signor Benedetti controls Olivetti.

IBT, which has subsidiaries in Britain (Buitoni Ltd), France and the United States and Brazil, ended 1983 with a 17.4 billion lire (£8 million net loss and debts put at more than 200 billion lire.

Money Supply Forecasts

	Starting M3 change on	Bank Lending (£ billion weekly adjusted)
Phillips & Drew	0.5	1.5
Capel-Cure Myers	0.5	1.5
Simon & Co.	0.75	2.0
W. Grammer	0.8	2.0
Howe & Pritchard	0.8	1.6
De Zoete & Bavin	0.75-1.0	2.0
W. & A. G. W. & A. G.	0.75-1.0	1.75
James Capel	1.0	1.7
Williams de Broe	1.0	1.5
Moore Gwynell	1.0	1.9
Lang & Crutchfield	1.2	1.66
Metcalfe & Co.	1.0-1.5	2.0-2.5

This is despite the fact that the rise in base rates from 12 to 14 per cent was generally seen as a crisis response to the pound's weakness.

The main elements in the January banking figures are expected to be a big rise in bank lending, and modest net sales of gilt-edged securities.

The Bank's caution on sanctioning a base rate cut last

BNOC still buying N Sea oil at loss

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The British National Oil Corporation has confirmed that it is still paying \$28.65 a barrel for the 51 per cent of North Sea output that it buys each day and that it has still made no decision on an official price structure for the first quarter of this year.

BNOC is continuing to buy oil at its last official price set in October, Mr Ian Goskirk, its chairman said.

This means that BNOC is paying the same price for North Sea crude as the new official price set by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for Nigerian Bonny Light crude which compares directly in quality with Britain's oil.

However, Mr Goskirk said that by sticking provisionally to the October price since the start of this year BNOC is not indicating an acceptance of the Opec pricing formula. He said: "That is a mistaken interpretation."

The Department of Energy is hoping that the gap between prices on the spot market and the last official BNOC price will narrow in the next few days to allow a new official price to be set.

Harrisons & Crosfield set to bid for Pauls

By Graham Seargeant
Financial Editor

Harrisons & Crosfield, the £600 million plantations, commodity and overseas trading group, has made a takeover approach to Pauls, the animal feed, malt and flavourings group, formerly known as Pauls & Whites.

The directors of Pauls issued a statement through their merchant bankers Schroder Wagg yesterday emphasizing that the approach was unsolicited and would be resisted.

The statement said: "The board of Pauls will strenuously seek to maintain the company's independence which it believes is in the best interest of shareholders and employees."

Shares in Pauls rose 3p on the stock market to 25 1/2p last week, valuing the group at about £80 million. A strategic stake in Pauls was held by the former Wood Hall Trust, but this was dispersed three years ago through a placing with institutions.

The Paul family now accounts for the biggest concentration of shareholdings with about 10 per cent of the company. Mr George Paul is the Ipswich-based group's chief executive.

Pauls' profits rose from £8 million to £11.3 million before tax in the four years to March 1984. Half-year profits to last September were marginally lower and the company said it expected profits to be little changed in 1984-85.

Harrisons & Crosfield made £56 million profit in 1983, mainly from plantation, timber trading, chemicals and other industrial raw materials. It has consolidated its plantation interests, but Malaysia's new policy of local control has made Harrisons look elsewhere for expansion.

BRITISH TRACTION is making an offer to acquire the publicly-held minority in its offshoot — BET Omnibus Services — by a scheme of arrangement. The offer, which values the minority at £1.06 million is expected to be completed by the end of March.

Westland hunts to fill order book gap

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Westland, which has a gap in its order book, and prospective cash flow difficulties is putting pressure on the Ministry of Defence to make early decisions about orders for helicopters.

Westland's annual report, published last month, showed that the helicopters group, based in Yeovil, Somerset, had an order book of about £570 million, equivalent to more than two years' work, and its prospects from about 1989 are good, with the EH-101 helicopter to be built for the Royal Navy, and hopes of a large order from the Army.

Its problem lies in 1987 and 1988, when present orders will be largely completed and before the longer term prospects are in full production.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said yesterday that the ministry was aware of the problems which Westland faced, and the company had

been having discussions with the Secretary of State. The future helicopter requirements of the ministry were still being considered.

Westland, however, is pressing the Ministry to award it a contract for a new transport helicopter for the Royal Air Force, which may be worth up to £500 million.

For this contract Westland with its Westland 30 helicopter is "competing" against Short Brothers of Belfast in association with the American Sikorski company, with its Blackhawk helicopter, and Aerospatiale of France with the Puma.

Westland believes that winning this order would enable it to raise the cash to meet its needs.

It hopes that at a preliminary indication of the prospects will emerge in the first half of this year.

City reporters may face code

By Our Financial Editor

The Department of Trade and Industry may ask newspaper editors to draw up a voluntary code of conduct against potential malpractices by financial journalists who write share tips and other stories that might affect the prices of companies' shares.

The code would be a quid pro quo for the exclusion of newspapers from the need to be authorized under the Government's plans, issued last week, to regulate financial services, including investment advice.

Professor Lawrence Gower's

report on investor protection, on which Mr Norman Tebbit's White Paper was based, recommended licensing city editors and named share tipsters as well as tipsters. But the White Paper specifically excluded newspapers, because financial advice was only a part of their business.

The Government has opted for licensing businesses instead of individuals as Professor Gower envisaged, including financial advice in newspapers in the regulations would therefore have given the Govern-

ment the power to ban newspapers, since it will be a criminal offence for anyone whose authorization is withdrawn to continue to trade.

The Press Council set up a study of newspaper codes for the financial dealings of journalists after the Gower report a year ago. A survey revealed a wide disparity. A few newspapers ban City journalists from owning any shares. Others encourage share ownership with a ban on the use of inside information.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Friday's close and change on week:
FT Ind Ord 977.5 (-25.3)
FT-A All Share 612.75 (-7.45)
FT Govt Securities 79.87 (+0.25)
FT-SE 100 1272.6 (-15.4)
Dataseam USM 105.57 (-0.21)
New York Dow Jones 1277.72 (+1.66)
Tokyo Nikkei Dow 11,948.96 (+161.86)
Hong Kong Hang Seng 1,358.28 (-17.65)
Amsterdam 197.0 (+1.5)
Sydney: AO 771.9 (+17.0)
Frankfurt Commerzbank 1,156.6 (+17.3)
Brussels General 114.28 (-11.79)
Paris: CAC 195.7 (+0.5)
Zurich SICA General 336.20 (unchanged)

CURRENCIES

London: Friday's close and change on week:
£ \$1.1240 (+0.0106)
DM £3.5735 (+0.0485)
DMF £3.0380 (+0.0765)
FF £10.9175 (+0.137)
Yen £268.50 (+6.0)
Yen £71.7 (+1.1)
New York:
£ \$1.1200
DM £3.1937
£ Index: 147.7 (+1.5)
ECU £0.821268
SDR £0.864739

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Rate: 14%
3-month Interbank 12% - 12%
3-month eligible bills: buying rate 12% - 11%
US:
Prime Rate 10.50%
Federal Funds 8 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills 8.20-8.16%
Long bond 10 3/4% - 10 1/2%

GOLD

London fixings:
am \$304.80pm-\$303.60
close \$303.30-303.50 (£269.25-269.75)
New York:
Comex (latest) \$303.35

More state spending urged

By Our Economics Correspondent

Britain's chambers of commerce have called on Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to boost spending on the infrastructure and cut National Insurance contributions.

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce, in its Budget submission, proposes improvements to motorways, trunk roads, and by-passes, electrification of railways, clearance of derelict land, improvement of water supply and the sewerage system and the repair

and maintenance of older housing and post-war estates. Such spending would total £1 billion in 1985/86.

The programme could be largely funded, the association says, by the large-scale disposal of land and buildings owned by the Property Services Agency and nationalized industries.

Its other main proposal is the first instalment of a programme of reductions in national insurance contributions for both employers and employees.

IN BRIEF

Bank loans cover ended

Citicorp said it has terminated an agreement, announced last May, with Cigna Corporation under which Cigna agreed to insure about \$900 million of Citicorp's outstanding loans to foreign countries.

Insurance industry sources had earlier said that Cigna was having difficulty assembling a reinsurance syndicate for the policy.

The policy, the first of its kind, was controversial in the insurance and banking industries because it appeared to open the way for Citicorp to shift the burden of possible loan losses to another company, reducing its own requirement to establish reserves for them.

Mexico-UK pact

Mexico and Britain have signed an accord rescheduling \$65 million (£58 million) private sector Mexican debt guaranteed by the British Export Credits Guarantee Department.

Offshore drive

The Government has accepted one of the main recommendations of a report from the National Economic Development Office on how British industry could gain more orders from the offshore oil industry. The recommendation calls for greater research and development coordination and the establishment of commercial centres dealing with offshore technology.

Investments handled by the Scottish institutions art to be steered towards new high-technology companies in the United States which might ultimately set up operations in Scotland. A new investment fund called SAVE — Scottish American Venture Enterprise — is to be launched in two weeks. The new fund, helped by the Scottish Development Agency, will channel cash towards companies in the energy, biotechnology, electronics and medical fields and build on links between high-technology companies.

Grenada loan

Britain is to grant a £5 million interest-free loan to Grenada, to fund a proposed five-year programme of capital projects.

Chinese VWs

Volkswagen plans to build 100,000 cars annually at a Shanghai plant by 1990 under its joint venture with China.

Berkeley Technology, a company specializing in arranging development capital finance between non-US institutional investors and US high technology companies, is being floated on the stock exchange. An offer-for-sale price of 150p for the 33.25 million shares values the company at \$24.6 million.

Korean rise

South Korea's consumer prices rose 0.5 per cent last month from December and 2.4 per cent from January 1984, according to the economic planning board.

Berkeley Technology Limited

(Incorporated with limited liability in Jersey on 23rd January 1985 under the provisions of the Companies (Jersey) Law, 1961 to 1964)

OFFER FOR SALE

by Kleinwort, Benson Limited

of 33,250,000 Ordinary Shares of U.S. \$0.05 each at 150p per share, payable in full on application

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorized \$3,000,000 Issued, or to be issued, fully paid or credited as fully paid \$2,819,800

60,000,000 Ordinary Shares of \$0.05 each

Berkeley was recently incorporated in Jersey. It has subsidiaries based in California, Jersey and the United Kingdom. Berkeley's original business was founded in 1977 to provide financial consultancy services. It has since developed to become one of the leading arrangers of development capital finance, acting between non-US institutional investors and U.S. high technology companies based predominantly on the West Coast of America. To date, Berkeley has arranged \$221 million of development capital finance comprising 85 investments in 56 companies. Candidates for development capital finance are actively sought by Berkeley which currently maintains information on over 4,000 U.S. high technology companies. Extensive investigations are always made by Berkeley before a transaction is completed.

The principal purpose of the Offer is to provide approximately \$44 million to be used by Berkeley for development capital investments on its own account. Berkeley's primary objective in making these investments will be to secure substantial capital appreciation, and thereby complement its current fee base. Berkeley will continue to develop its role as an arranger of development capital finance on behalf of both existing and new clients.

Applications must be received by 10 a.m. on Thursday, 7th February 1985.

Copies of the Offer for Sale, which complies with the listing particulars relating to Berkeley Technology Limited, together with Application Forms may be obtained from:

Kleinwort, Benson Limited 20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DP

de Zoete & Bevan 25 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7EE

National Westminster Bank PLC 80 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3JZ

P.O. Box No. 20 23 Broad Street, St. Helier, Jersey

P.O. Box No. 208 55 King Street, Manchester M60 2DB

and, until 8th February 1985, at the Company's Announcements Office of The Stock Exchange in London.

The Offer for Sale is published in today's Financial Times and Daily Telegraph.

4th February, 1985

Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
1	Dunhill	40.00	0.00	12.00	3.33
2	Moss Bros	41.00	0.00	12.30	3.36
3	Time Products	42.00	0.00	12.60	3.39
4	Ford (Maron)	43.00	0.00	12.90	3.42
5	Devlint (U)	44.00	0.00	13.20	3.45
6	Stemmer	45.00	0.00	13.50	3.48
7	Hollis	46.00	0.00	13.80	3.51
8	Greenfield Black	47.00	0.00	14.10	3.54
9	Greenfield Black	48.00	0.00	14.40	3.57
10	Penrhyn	49.00	0.00	14.70	3.60
11	Building and Roads	50.00	0.00	15.00	3.63
12	Callford	51.00	0.00	15.30	3.66
13	May & Hassell	52.00	0.00	15.60	3.69
14	Meyer Int	53.00	0.00	15.90	3.72
15	Finlin (John)	54.00	0.00	16.20	3.75
16	Brickhouse Dairy	55.00	0.00	16.50	3.78
17	Levermore (Walter)	56.00	0.00	16.80	3.81
18	Usher (FIC)	57.00	0.00	17.10	3.84
19	Vitaphone	58.00	0.00	17.40	3.87
20	Herwood Williams	59.00	0.00	17.70	3.90
21	Raggeville Rock	60.00	0.00	18.00	3.93
22	INDUSTRIALIS-2	61.00	0.00	18.30	3.96
23	Security Serv	62.00	0.00	18.60	3.99
24	Whitcomb	63.00	0.00	18.90	4.02
25	Third Mile	64.00	0.00	19.20	4.05
26	UKO	65.00	0.00	19.50	4.08
27	Smith Whitworth	66.00	0.00	19.80	4.11
28	Tellis	67.00	0.00	20.10	4.14
29	Severn	68.00	0.00	20.40	4.17
30	Waterford Glen	69.00	0.00	20.70	4.20
31	Wessex	70.00	0.00	21.00	4.23
32	Traders	71.00	0.00	21.30	4.26
33	INSURANCE	72.00	0.00	21.60	4.29
34	Miner	73.00	0.00	21.90	4.32
35	Walls Faber	74.00	0.00	22.20	4.35
36	San Alliance	75.00	0.00	22.50	4.38
37	Legal & Gen	76.00	0.00	22.80	4.41
38	Ldn Ind Inv	77.00	0.00	23.10	4.44
39	Royal	78.00	0.00	23.40	4.47
40	Heritage	79.00	0.00	23.70	4.50
41	CRE	80.00	0.00	24.00	4.53
42	Equity & Law	81.00	0.00	24.30	4.56
43	Refuge	82.00	0.00	24.60	4.59

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

Stocks	Share	Price	Chg	Gross Div	% P/E
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stocks	Share	Price	Chg	Gross Div	% P/E
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

UNDATED

Stocks	Share	Price	Chg	Gross Div	% P/E
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

INDEX-LINKED

Stocks	Share	Price	Chg	Gross Div	% P/E
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Stocks	Share	Price	Chg	Gross Div	% P/E
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
British Fund	100	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Began Jan 28. Dealings End, Feb 8. Contango Day, Feb 11. Settlement Day, Feb 18.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

BUILDING AND ROADS

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

CINEMAS AND TV

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

DRAPERY AND STORES

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

ELECTRICALS

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00
100.00	British Fund	100.00	0.00	10.00	10.00

Capitalization £ Company	Price Friday	Ch'ge on Friday	Gross Div pence	% P/E
242.2d 100.00 744.0d 100.00 7,159.0d 175.2d 100.00 26.0d 100.00 47.10d 100.00 28.70d 100.00 538.3d 1,178.0d 90.70d 100.00 51.10d 100.00 255.8d 100.00 29.0d 100.00 6,511.0d 100.00 7,748.0d 100.00 13.80d 100.00 718.70d 100.00 67.70d 100.00 10.00d 100.00	BSN R. Thompson Ship B R. Thompson Ship B R. Thompson Ship B C&G C&G & Whitsett Developp Bk D. T. & Co. Off D. T. & Co. Off D. T. & Co. Off D. T. & Co. Off D. T. & Co. Off D. T. & Co. Off Electrochem Electrochem Energy Ind Energy Ind Energy Ind Energy Ind First Const			

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IN THE CITY TO £9,300

No legal experience needed, but an excellent opportunity for you to gain some experience as secretary to the managing director of a very prestigious international firm of solicitors. Plenty of client contact and your own areas of responsibility. 90/60 skills and previous W/P experience needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4 Telephone 01-236 3712
18 Grosvenor Street London W1 Telephone 01-499 8070

Ask Alfred Marks ATTENTION SLOANES

£8000

Large PA vacancy in W1 for an excellent opportunity. Must have good skills with IBM D/W Text Pack 4 and Report Pack experience. Shortlisted must be interviewed. Wonderful office for an ambitious secretary.

ART - SW1

Successful Gallery needs a bright person to help the P.A. in assisting 2 Directors, work on the word processor and help generally including exhibitions. Fun job for well presented person with skills of 80/50, w.p. experience and a driving licence. Salary £7,000.

TRAVEL - W1

International travel company with particular interests in Australasia needs an intelligent person to join their small friendly team as a consultant. Responsibilities include arranging flights, holidays, travel itineraries and typing own correspondence. Some experience necessary. Salary £7,000 + super benefits.

DESIGN - SW7

No shorthand? You need only accurate typing (60+), good organisational abilities and an enthusiastic approach to join this friendly, hardworking team of architects and designers. You will be involved in producing the brochure, liaising with clients and typing specifications. Salary £7,500.

LEISURE - W1

Internationally renowned company needs a keen secretary for a Director in their Property Division. Lots of telephone liaison, dealing with people and a chance to use your initiative. Good typing/audio and rusty shorthand and a sense of humour necessary. Salary 7,500 + benefits.

PLEASE RING 434 4512

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

PROMOTIONS - W1

Busy Account Director of successful sales promotion agency needs a confident secretary to work for him and his team. Plenty of involvement and interest dealing with clients, general office administration. Good typing (55 wpm). Word processing training given. Salary c. £8,000 + benefits.

RESEARCH - SW1

Small organisation needs a secretary for their Research and Appeals Directors. Interesting work dealing with correspondence, typing and preparation of material for publication, proof reading, organising committee meetings and assistance with press conferences and seminars. Skills 80/50 and word processing experience. Salary c. £7,500.

SUMMER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

up to £7,632pa inc

An opportunity to play a key role in the development and operation of 1985 Middlesex Summer School which in August will welcome over 300 degree-level students to the beautiful Trent Park campus. Assisting with general administrative arrangements, publicity, student enrolment, and handling enquiries, you will need to be self-motivating, well-organised, and to enjoy communicating with people. Secretarial skills are necessary, with the ability to deal with a very wide range of administrative and personal matters. This is a temporary one-year appointment, commencing as soon as possible.

Write enclosing S.A.E. (min 8in x 4in) and quoting ref 414X/C for further details and an application form. Personnel Office, Middlesex Polytechnic, 1141 Gypsy Lane, London N14 6PN.

Closing Date 11 February.

IBM DISPLAY WRITER £10,000 SW1

PA/SEC with a sense of team spirit who is not afraid of hard work, to be a vital link in the start up of a new American Co. Immediate start. Age 24-31 NON SMOKER.

FAST PACE £10,000 W1

A small, rapidly expanding Co. needs a highly motivated, self-motivated, administrative assistant to assist the Managing Director. The ability to work independently and to deal with a wide range of administrative and personal matters. Age 26-30 NON SMOKER.

Mayfair

01-728 8491

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Shorthand or Audio

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for a preliminary interview.

Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School
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SECRETARY TO PROFESSOR

A secretary to the Professor is required at the School's Professional Surgical Unit based at St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW10. Good secretarial skills are required, including word processing experience, as is enthusiasm and a willingness to work hard. Generous holidays. Salary at an appropriate point on scale 55.617 - 57.692 ind.

Telephone 01 828 9611 ext 2324 for application form. Applications should be lodged with the Secretary, Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, The Royal College Building, St Dunstan's Road, London W6 8RT, no later than Friday 15th February, 1985.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SECRETARY

Small, busy PR consultancy needs an experienced, energetic, and creative secretary to assist in the day-to-day running of the business. The ideal candidate will have a good knowledge of the PR industry and be able to handle a variety of tasks. Salary: £20,000 - £25,000 per annum. Please apply to: Public Relations Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH.

COLLEGE LEAVER SECRETARY £8,000

Join one of London's most prestigious firms of secretaries and you will find it an exciting and rewarding experience. The firm is looking for a college leaver with a good knowledge of the secretarial profession and a willingness to work hard. Salary: £8,000 per annum. Please apply to: College Leaver Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH.

MEDICAL SECRETARY

Small group of busy medical practices looking for a medical secretary. The ideal candidate will have a good knowledge of the medical profession and be able to handle a variety of tasks. Salary: £10,000 - £12,000 per annum. Please apply to: Medical Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH.

UNDER 21 SECRETARY

This Division seeks a young, energetic, and creative secretary to assist in the day-to-day running of the business. The ideal candidate will have a good knowledge of the secretarial profession and a willingness to work hard. Salary: £10,000 - £12,000 per annum. Please apply to: Under 21 Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH.

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JULIA GRAY
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PERSONAL COLUMNS

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Interested in family cooking and some care of two school-aged children. Small, tidy, own room with colour TV. Car provided (driver's license). Daily help.

Long term position in St John's Wood. Excellent salary, good time off. Package includes 40% plus bonus or own experience.

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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career choice

From school to success

Aspiring managers are now looking to Europe to get the training they need, reports Sarah Foot

European Business Schools put their teaching to the test last November marketing their own brand of merchandise. Seven schools from five European countries collaborated in organizing, funding and advertising a European Business Schools' trade fair in Brussels. It was a great success. The schools were delighted at the number of aspiring managers of all nationalities interested in the advantages of a European business education.

It is in the United States, however, that the Master of Business Administration (MBA) originated and first established its reputation. In theory, management can be taught as an academic discipline and then applied to any organisation. An MBA course teaches the technical aspects of production, finance and marketing, improves analytical skills, decision-making, capabilities, entrepreneurial qualities and personal initiative. Judging by the careers of MBA graduates and the companies prepared to sponsor MBA students, the theory is being put into practice in Europe.

Ten years ago, the most respectable place to read for your MBA was the US. Glossy management magazines displayed photographic businessmen returning from America, newly armed with MBA's and successfully launching themselves onto the managerial job market. The situation is changing. The past 20 or so years have seen the development of European Business Schools. Although inspired by the American example, the schools are neither Stanford or Chicago clones, nor under-weight Harvards. European management education has its own identity and is particularly suited to the needs of the European economic environment.

Business concepts are easily transferred

This was the central message of the Brussels meeting. Schools from Britain, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain, all stressed the international nature of European business education in general. Business concepts such as marketing or finance may be easily transferred from country to country, but the context can not. As one MBA programme leader remarked, however rewarding the experience of working with all nationalities, such experience can be time consuming. You need an understanding of how minds, brought up with different educations and outlooks, actually work.

European Business Schools therefore sell not only courses on management technology, accounting and economics, but also develop on the cultural aspects. At INSEAD, in Fontainebleau, only 26 per cent of the

students are French and 25 per cent are from outside Europe. 15 nationalities are represented on their 50-strong teaching body. Linguistic abilities feature highly. At IESE, in Barcelona, about one-third of the courses are run in English and about half of the students speak more than two languages. At INSEAD students must speak fluent French and English, and acquire some knowledge of German. The course at the Graduate School of Management in Rotterdam has to be international by virtue of Dutch history and the size of the Netherlands.

Europeanism may be the common characteristic of these business schools but there is no common market encouraging further co-operation between them. The Brussels forum was the first of its kind, and its success means similar forums will be held both in Frankfurt and Brussels next year.

Professor Julian Franks, director of the Master's Programme at the London Business School, said it was a "European effort" and welcomed a "greater tilt" towards continental students. It was a valuable opportunity to work with his continental colleagues and exchange ideas over curriculum and admissions.

Marketing an MBA is not like marketing soap powder, but not everyone may need management education. You need to be sure that anyone investing in an MBA knows exactly what they are letting themselves in for. Certainly, Professor Franks was encouraged at the range and number of people inquiring about what they would be letting themselves in for at the LBS - both 20-year-olds interested in applying in a few years and 25 to 36-year-olds asking about next year's course.

The seven schools present had agreed upon a possible brochure outlining their similarities. Naturally, the programmes all vary in character and emphasis, but most of the degrees take two full academic years and offer a common core of subjects which can be developed further through optional courses.

Unlike business schools in the USA which offer a whole range of MBA programmes, these European schools mainly offer general management courses. In Minnesota, for example, it is possible to take an MBA specialising in accounting but you would not

learn enough at INSEAD to qualify professionally as an accountant. The majority of European Business Schools' students have already acquired professional skills through both education and practical experience.

Financial constraints can compel you to read for your MBA in your own country. An MBA is an expensive investment. A number of Research Council Studentships and Business School Bursaries are, however, available; scholarships are awarded; it is possible to borrow from banks participating in the Business Graduates Loan Scheme; some of the schools run Summer Job Programmes - the London Business School estimates that it is possible for students to earn up to £2,500 during their course.

Study where you hope to work

If, however, you do have the financial freedom to pick the business school of your choice, the lesson of the Brussels fair was to base your decision on the nature of your future business milieu. Study for your MBA where you hope to pursue your business career.

SPAIN: Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Empresa, Avenida Pearson, 21 Barcelona-34. Tel: (93) 204 4000/204 4100. Tuition fees: 5,000 pesetas p.a. **THE NETHERLANDS:** Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University, Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, 3062 PA Rotterdam. Tel: 010-625511. Fees: 12,000 dfl. **FRANCE:** Institut Européen d'Administration des Affaires, Boulevard de Constance, 57725 Fontainebleau Cedex. Tel: (6) 422 48 47. Fees: 60,000 FF. Institut Supérieur des Affaires, 1, rue de la Liberté, 78350 Jouy-en-Josas. Tel: (3) 958 80 00. Fees: 50,000 FF - 18 months. **UNITED KINGDOM:** London Business School, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1. Tel: 262-5050. Fees: 21,569 (UK/EEC students); £3,900 (Others); Manchester Business School, Booth Street West, Manchester. Tel: 061-273 8228. Fees: 21,569 (UK/EEC students); £3,000 (Others). **ITALY:** Scuola di Direzione Aziendale, Università L. Bocconi, Via Sarfatti 25, 20136 Milan. Tel: 02-838 4341. Fees: 9.5 million lire for 14 months.

● Middlesex Business School runs a unique course for a Bachelor of Arts degree in European Business Administration in association with l'Ecole Supérieure de Commerce at Reims, France, and the Fachhochschule of Reutlingen in West Germany. Details appear in a report on Thursday, 7th February 1985.

● European Business Schools will be featured in a Report on Wednesday, 6th March 1985.

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A major part of the Society's work is the organisation of Scientific meetings and conferences within the UK. The Meetings Office is also responsible for the publication of the Society's Bulletin and the administration of its grant scheme. The successful candidate must be capable of withstanding the inevitable pressure created by the need to meet deadlines. After a period of training, he or she will be expected to take over a section of the Meetings Office and thereafter to work with minimum supervision. Administrative and organising ability are more important than formal qualifications.

Familiarity with the use of micro computers as an aid to administration would be an advantage but is not essential.

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Further details may be obtained from Glyn D. Jones, Executive Secretary, The Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, High Holborn, London WC1R 5DP, to whom applications should be made with full career details by 4th March 1985.

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Applicants should preferably have substantial teaching experience in secondary, further or higher education and administrative experience. Forms and further details should be requested by postcard from the undersigned (or by telephone: 01-870 2144 Extn. 58) to whom completed forms should be returned.

(NO LATER THAN 27 FEBRUARY 1985)

D H Board MA
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London Regional Examining Board
Lynne Haines, 194 Wandsworth High Street
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Requests for application forms and further particulars, quoting reference 7/12, should be addressed to the Registrar, Room 49, UMIST, PO Box 16, Manchester M60 1UD. Informal enquiries can be made to the Registrar or Professor J. W. S. Hearle.

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Russians eager for more US trade

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

The Soviet Union has expressed a "strong interest" in expanding trade with the United States, according to a secret US Government report describing a high-level round of trade talks in Moscow last month.

The report also states that the Soviet Union may be prepared to increase Jewish emigration if there is an overall improvement in trade, economic and political relations between the two superpowers.

The contents of the classified report were outlined in the *New York Times* yesterday. The report provides the clearest indication to date that both countries hope that the resumption of nuclear arms talks next month will lead to a general improvement.

US-Soviet trade has fallen from \$4.4 billion (£3.6 billion) in 1979, the year of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, to only \$2.9 billion last year. A large part of that trade is accounted for by American wheat sales to the Soviet Union.

The report states that the Soviet Union has expressed particular interest in buying American oil and gas equipment and other energy-related materials.

The reference to Jewish emigration prospects was made by Mr Vladimir Alkhimov, chairman of the state bank, who is reported to have told the American trade delegation at "if good relations were restored with the US \$50,000 Jewish emigrants annually would be no problem". After reaching a high point close to 50,000 a year in the 1970s, fewer than 900 Jews were permitted to leave last year.

New leader for US Democrats

Washington—The Democratic Party has a new national chairman, Mr Paul Kirk, aged 47, a former aide to Senator Edward Kennedy and a man closely identified with the liberal policies that many Democrats blame for their party's decline in the polls (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Mr Kirk, who replaces Mr Charles Manatt, leader for the past four years, was supported by the unions and traditional Democrats, but his victory has alienated blacks and southern conservatives.

Icy Finnish wastes yield their secret



The main section of a crashed Soviet target missile being inspected by members of a Finnish Air Force salvage team after it was lifted from the bottom of Lake Inari in Finnish Lapland. It also included the missile's engine.

The last missing section of the fuselage was found yesterday but it fell back during the hoisting operation which was hampered by extreme cold (Olli Kivenen writes).

Preliminary investigation of the wreck confirmed the original Finnish version of the incident which said that it was a wayward Soviet target missile. However, Finnish officials did not want to identify formally the missile at this early stage. They would only say that it was not a strategic cruise missile. It had no warhead.

Observers believe that it is either an SSN-3 Shaddock, a purpose-built remote controlled target missile, or an early version of a surface-to-surface cruise missile, which has been altered for use as a target missile.

Some of the parts recovered from the lake are dated 1971 and 1972. The motor is an ordinary jet engine. The missile has small wings.

The Finnish authorities have categorically denied speculation that Soviet jets shot down the missile. Moscow denial, page 6

Libya to release Britons

Continued from page 1

the people of Britain and the people of Libya. The Church must concern itself with reconciliation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday: "I am very pleased at the prospect of a happy completion to a long mission. My first thoughts are for the families who have had a long and testing vigil."

A Foreign Office spokesman praised Mr Waite's patience and skill.

Mr Anderson, from Newcastle, was charged with carrying letters containing information defamatory to the Libyan state. He was arrested at Tripoli airport on May 15. Mr Plummer was arrested when he did a U-turn at the entrance to the university. Mr Alan Russell was convicted of breaches of state security after he spoke to the BBC World Service during a news blackout in Tripoli. Mr Bernardine was arrested at his home but it is not clear for what reason.

Ethiopia's epidemic takes hold

Continued from page 1

where the only water supplies are thick, soupy, contaminated rivers.

In one village, near Shashamene, 70 people had died. Others had set up isolation buildings to house victims. At a state farm in the west of Shoa four people died from a diarrhoeal virus which under the microscope was "classic textbook cholera slide", according to one nurse.

In another village a relief worker for an Irish charity at a feeding centre in Wolayta had died from the disease.

● Moves to press the Ethiopian Government to issue a statement on whether or not cholera is responsible for the epidemic which has taken hundreds of lives in its refugee camps were made last week.

Field directors of various charities asked the World Health Organization's co-ordinator to issue a statement on cholera tests which should have been published 10 days ago.

500 mining jobs lost at colliery

Continued from page 1

at Mr Arthur Scargill's "mischievously misleading" talk of a new union initiative.

He said that further contact was a waste of time, "unless the union accepts the realities of the need for a procedure by which we can move towards the closure of uneconomic pits".

The word "economics" was not mentioned once in the union's documents last week, he said.

Mr Eaton added that the coal board would eventually move to close "uneconomic" pits, provided they had the agreement of the two other mining unions, even if the NUM stayed out. Under those circumstances striking NUM members would not be entitled to redundancy terms, although that, he said, was not an immediate threat.

Mr Scargill, Mr Peter Heathfield, his union's secretary and Mr Nick McGahay, its vice-president, are due to see officials of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service today to brief them on the latest impasse. Welsh faces lost, page 2

Village voice

Search for better life on land by the Ganges

A hillman working a plot of poor land reluctantly decides to strike out on his own, to try to improve his living standards by moving to the plains. VICTOR ZORZA, a former journalist of the Year who wrote about life in a poor Himalayan village for *The Guardian* and *The Washington Post*, continues his series for *The Times* on life in a village on the banks of the Ganges by relating what happened to the migrant.

The new land the hillman had heard about was reputed to yield twice as much grain as the mountain soil, but they refused to believe it. It was too good to be true. Bhagwari went down to the plains to investigate and reported his findings to the Council of Elders.

If the land by the Ganges were really as fertile as he said, the Elders asked him, why would the owner want to sell it? Bhagwari described the rice he had seen in the landowner's fields, each stalk twice as tall as in the mountains, each grain twice as heavy. Down there no one lived in fear, as they always did in the hills, that the rains might be late: the fields were irrigated by river water even during droughts. Nor was grazing short, as it was on the bare hillsides: the neighbouring jungle would support any number of buffaloes.

Bhagwari was tempted. He had suffered a series of disastrous harvests. The villagers never allowed anyone to starve. They would continue to share their food with him — so long as they had any themselves. But his land was poor. His prospects were bleak. He couldn't live on charity for ever.

Flight from poverty in the hills

The village elders advised Bhagwari against migrating to the plains. A new community, they told him, made up of new settlers would lack the warmth and the unity which enabled a family to survive when disaster struck — "and it always does, even in the plains," they said. He didn't heed their warnings. When he offered his land for sale, no one wanted his barren fields. He left the village with a heavy heart.

The money he borrowed bought less than an acre of stony scrubland at the edge of the jungle, on an old river-bed. Only his eldest son, not yet in his teens, helped him to uproot the trees and dig up the boulders. His wife had to stay in the hut to look after the smaller children.

New settlers benefited from Bhagwari's experience. He told them where to find the best straw with which to build huts. He showed them the deposits of fertile soil in the jungle. They dug it up and carried it, basket by basket, to their sandy fields.

Grateful neighbours now looked after his children while his wife helped with the work. The sense of community which the Elders had said would be lacking was slowly beginning to develop. The

disasters they had predicted did come — a flood ravaged the village one year; epidemics unknown in the mountains attacked the newcomers; straw huts easily caught fire. But the shared trials tempered the new community and helped to forge a shared identity.

It was several years before Bhagwari grew a crop that would feed the family adequately. The undernourished children put on weight. He was the first, after several more years, to abandon the straw shack and to build, with his neighbours' help, a hut of stone and clay that was safe from fire. He bought a buffalo and sometimes sold the milk to a boatman who took it down-river to town.

Sandy fields are made fertile

In time other villagers acquired buffaloes. But the output from milk was unpredictable; the boatman's visits were irregular and uncertain. The settlers levelled the rough jungle track so that cyclists could carry the milk to town. They had rarely had enough grain to sell, but buffalo milk now became a source of hard cash. The village joined the money economy.

The settlement had become a magnet for people fleeing the poverty of the hills — the hard life, the infertile soil, the meagre crop. The landowner was running out of plots to sell and raised his prices. One of Bhagwari's new neighbours, Shola Durt, paid several times as much for a new plot as the first settlers had done.

Shola Durt was a restless spirit. He had first migrated from the hills to a town in the plains, had saved enough to buy the expensive new land, and he wanted to leave again because the village had left him up to his expectations. An employer was willing to give him a good price — but pulled out at the last moment. Shola Durt's land deeds, he said, were suspect because the land he was offering for sale was not registered in his name.

Other settlers now learned that their title to the plots they had bought from the landowner might be similarly challenged. Had he cheated them? The village, appalled at the discovery, was thrown into turmoil. It was worse than a flood, worse than illness or fire or any disaster that could have been predicted.

Bhagwari began to fear that the land he had won back from the jungle and from the stony river-bed might not be his. © 1985, Victor Zorza

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New Exhibitions

Hand and Mind, Usher Art Gallery, Lindum Road, Lincoln. Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until March 3).
British, Continental and American contemporary paintings, Studio Gallery, Glasgow Street, Glasgow. Mon 12 to 6 and 7 to 9, Tues to Sat 12 to 6 (from today until March 2).
E. S. Lumsden's Views of India. Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill. Wednesdays Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (from today until March 28).

The story of Falmouth Docks, 1860 to 1985. Falmouth Art Gallery, Municipal Offices, Falmouth. Mon to Fri 10 to 1 and 2 to 4.30 (from today until Feb 28).

Knowing Where To Draw The Line: drawings by selected artists, and in Falmouth photographs, Silk Top Hat Gallery, Quality Square, Ludlow. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun and Tues (from today until Feb 25).

Western Approaches. South West Galleries Association, exhibition, MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr. Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (until March 2).

Music

Recital by Hunt Trio, Music Centre, Armagh. 8.
Concert by The Scholars, University Chapel, Keele University. 8.
Organ recital by Tim Hone, Coventry Cathedral. 8.
Recital by John Mark Ainsley (tenor) and Iain Simcock (piano), Church of St Mary-the-Virgin, High Street, Oxford. 1.15.
Talks, lectures

Canals, illustrated talk by Theo Bolus, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham. 6.30.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion on the mining dispute.
Lords (2.30): Insolvency Bill, committee, second day.

Anniversaries

Birth: Tadeusz Kosciuszko, Polish patriot, Mercersway, Poland (now in USSR), 1746.
Fernand Léger, painter, Argenteuil, France, 1881; Ugo Bardi, playwright, Camerino, Italy, 1892.

Roadworks

London and South-east: Piccadilly underground at Hyde Park Corner, closed to westbound traffic, diversions. Only one lane westbound along New Oxford Street, because of roadworks at junction of Tottenham Court Road and Charing Cross Road. A243: Single lane traffic with lights on Hook Road, Hook, at junction with Verona Drive.

Wales: West: A5: Between Min and Telford, Staffs, temporary signals at Weston under Lizard and Sireton. A487: Temporary lights on Caernarfon to Portmadoc road at Dolwyddelan and only one lane at Penmorfa. Gwynedd: A485: Temporary signals between Ruabon and Oswestry at Newbridge, Clwyd.

Midlands and East Angles: M6: Lane closures between junctions 3 (Beds) and 4 (Colshire). E of Birmingham: M5: Lane closures between junctions 4 (A38, Bromsgrove) and 5 (A438, Droitwich). M5: Regular night-time closures continue to affect northbound lanes between junctions 6 (Worcester) and 5 (Droitwich): all traffic diverted to A38 and A438, between 9.30 pm and 6.30 hours am.

North: A193: Lane restrictions on Byker Bridge, Newcastle.
Scotland: A74: Lane closures S of A70 junction (Lanark). A7: Single lane traffic with lights S of Horwick, Borders. M74: Southbound lane closures between junctions 6 (M73) and 1 (Lanark).

Information supplied by the A.A.

Nature notes

Along the coast, some stonechats were driven from their territories by the snow, but they are now returning. The males are red-bellied birds with a black cap and a broken white collar; they sit on the tops of grass-bushes or old hemlock stems, pouncing on beetles and spiders that they see moving in the grass. A few black redstarts have wintered in southern England: they have been seen in gardens, but have not yet been seen on gasworks and power stations, which they find a satisfactory substitute for cliffs. Older chaffinches are back in their breeding territories, calling with sharp, loud, and regular notes to sing: first-year males will try to stake out territories for themselves later in the month.

Silverfish, which belong to a group of wingless insects called bristle-tails, are active at night in kitchens and on open hearths. House-wickets are sometimes heard chirping in cold buildings, but have become much rarer. Male winter moths are out flying when the evenings are mild and dry; they are pale brown with dark brown bands on their wings, and settle in a triangular shape. The almost wingless females live on orchard tree-trunks.

DJM

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw of minimum prizes are: £100,000: 22AB 06523 (winner lives in Devon); £50,000: 15KZ 98396 (West Yorkshire); £25,000: 8FL 110620 (Norwich).

The pound

	Bank	Spot	Bank	Spot
Australia \$	1.45	1.45	Canada \$	1.37
Belgium F	23.85	23.85	Denmark Kr	13.25
France F	6.55	6.55	Germany DM	3.37
Italy L	160.00	160.00	Japan ¥	160.00
Netherlands Gld	1.30	1.30	Portugal Esc	200.00
Spain Ptas	166.67	166.67	Sweden Kr	10.36
Switzerland Fr	1.75	1.75	Yugoslavia Dnr	238.00

Notes for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Reuters Bank International Ltd. London. The £1 note closed down 0.5 on Friday at 97.75.

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The pound is now trading at 97.75. The pound is now trading at 97.75.

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Weather forecast

An anticyclone over N France will persist, moving slowly E: a mild S airstream will cover most of the British Isles.

6am to midnight

London, SE, E, NE England, East Angles, E Midlands, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Northern Ireland: Rather cloudy with bright or sunny intervals; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW NW Scotland, Argyll: Rather cloudy, drizzle at times, becoming drier, brighter in places; wind S, light or moderate; max temp 8 to 11C (46 to 52F).

W Midlands, NW, Central N England: Rather cloudy, some drizzle at first, becoming mainly dry with bright or sunny intervals; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, outbreaks of rain or sleet at times; wind SE, strong veering and decreasing S; fresh; max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Remaining mild.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind variable, mainly S, light; sea smooth. English Channel (E): Wind SE, light or moderate; sea light S. Irish Sea: Wind SE, light or moderate; sea moderate.

Sun rises: 7.34 am
Sun sets: 4.56 pm
Moon rises: 3.09 pm
Full Moon: Tomorrow.

Lighting-up time
London 5.20 pm to 7.03 am
Edinburgh 5.20 pm to 7.03 am
Belfast 5.20 pm to 7.03 am

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloudy; d, drizzle; r, rain.

London
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 5 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 5 am, 7C (45F). Humidity: 6 pm, 80 per cent. Rain: 0.4 mm. Sea: 102.8 m. High tide: 10.28 m. Low tide: 1.02 m.

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High tides

London Bridge 12.34, 12.35, 12.36, 12.37, 12.38, 12.39, 12.40, 12.41, 12.42, 12.43, 12.44, 12.45, 12.46, 12.47, 12.48, 12.49, 12.50, 12.51, 12.52, 12.53, 12.54, 12.55, 12.56, 12.57, 12.58, 12.59, 13.00, 13.01, 13.02, 13.03, 13.04, 13.05, 13.06, 13.07, 13.08, 13.09, 13.10, 13.11, 13.12, 13.13, 13.14, 13.15, 13.16, 13.17, 13.18, 13.19, 13.20, 13.21, 13.22, 13.23, 13.24, 13.25, 13.26, 13.27, 13.28, 13.29, 13.30, 13.31, 13.32, 13.33, 13.34, 13.35, 13.36, 13.37, 13.38, 13.39, 13.40, 13.41, 13.42, 13.43, 13.44, 13.45, 13.46, 13.47, 13.48, 13.49, 13.50, 13.51, 13.52, 13.53, 13.54, 13.55, 13.56, 13.57, 13.58, 13.59, 14.00, 14.01, 14.02, 14.03, 14.04, 14.05, 14.06, 14.07, 14.08, 14.09, 14.10, 14.11, 14.12, 14.13, 14.14, 14.15, 14.16, 14.17, 14.18, 14.19, 14.20, 14.21, 14.22, 14.23, 14.24, 14.25, 14.26, 14.27, 14.28, 14.29, 14.30, 14.31, 14.32, 14.33, 14.34, 14.35, 14.36, 14.37, 14.38, 14.39, 14.40, 14.41, 14.42, 14.43, 14.44, 14.45, 14.46, 14.47, 14.48, 14.49, 14.50, 14.51, 14.52, 14.53, 14.54, 14.55, 14.56, 14.57, 14.58, 14.59, 15.00, 15.01, 15.02, 15.03, 15.04, 15.05, 15.06, 15.07, 15.08, 15.09, 15.10, 15.11, 15.12, 15.13, 15.14, 15.15, 15.16, 15.17, 15.18, 15.19, 15.20, 15.21, 15.22, 15.23, 15.24, 15.25, 15.26, 15.27, 15.28, 15.29, 15.30, 15.31, 15.32, 15.33, 15.34, 15.35, 15.36, 15.37, 15.38, 15.39, 15.40, 15.41, 15.42, 15.43, 15.44, 15.45, 15.46, 15.47, 15.48, 15.49, 15.50, 15.51, 15.52, 15.53, 15.54, 15.55, 15.56, 15.57, 15.58, 15.59, 16.00, 16.01, 16.02, 16.03, 16.04, 16.05, 16.06, 16.07, 16.08, 16.09, 16.10, 16.11, 16.12, 16.13, 16.14, 16.15, 16.16, 16.17, 16.18, 16.19, 16.20, 16.21, 16.22, 16.23, 16.24, 16.25, 16.26, 16.27, 16.28, 16.29, 16.30, 16.31, 16.32, 16.33, 16.34, 16.35, 16.36, 16.37, 16.38, 16.39, 16.40, 16.41, 16.42, 16.43, 16.44, 16.45, 16.46, 16.47, 16.48, 16.49, 16.50, 16.51, 16.52, 16.53, 16.54, 16.55, 16.56, 16.57, 16.58, 16.59, 17.00, 17.01, 17.02, 17.03, 17.04, 17.05, 17.06, 17.07, 17.08, 17.09, 17.10, 17.11, 17.12, 17.13, 17.14, 17.15, 17.16, 17.17, 17.18, 17.19, 17.20, 17.21, 17.22, 17.23, 17.24, 17.25, 17.26, 17.27, 17.28, 17.29, 17.30, 17.31, 17.32, 17.33, 17.34, 17.35, 17.36, 17.37, 17.38, 17.39, 17.40, 17.41, 17.42, 17.43, 17.44, 17.45, 17.46, 17.47, 17.48, 17.49, 17.50, 17.51, 17.52, 17.53, 17.